

Corvan Antics

Founded in 1972 by Ken Wilhite

September/October 2012

Volume 40 Issue 5

Celebrating our 40th year.



The Bi-monthly Newsletter of the

Corvanatics



Chapter 001 Of the Corvair Society of America
The Forward Control Corvair People

Riding with the President

By John Nickel

It's nice to be back home again after our trip up to Sturbridge, MA and the convention. The trip up and back went very well with no problems from the '64 8-Door. We camped at four different campgrounds, so we got a variety of experiences in Virginia, Pennsylvania and NY. We had great time at the convention! We participated in the Autocross on Wednesday at the Stafford Motor Speedway in Connecticut. Barb had not EVER driven the van before arriving at the speedway, but learned how pretty quickly and got a First Place trophy in IS-4. I was able to scratch out a Third Place trophy against Larry Claypool (First) and Mike Emanuel (Second) in IS-4. Thursday was the Rally and there were 61 participants! The drive was very enjoyable and picturesque especially while going through the Quabbin Reservoir Park. We placed 20th, which is our best ever at a Convention. Friday was Corvair Fun day and the Concours. We participated in the Slow Drags and the Back-seat drivers events. Both were a lot of fun. Saturday was the People's Choice show. I have never seen so many Corvairs at one time. There were 200 Corvairs on display, 21 of them were FCs!

The Corvanatics meeting was on Thursday afternoon, and I know that some of you missed it due to some scheduling confusion at the show. Forty-five members and guests were at the meeting which was kept short because we only had one hour to get things done, not like our usual one and a half to two hour "party." The final draft of our new By-Laws were presented and accepted. If there are areas that you would like to see changed, please let your Director or Board member know so that amendments can be considered. We elected Molly Bacon as Secretary/Treasurer, Ken Hand as Central Director, and Tim Shortle as Western Director. Door prizes were drawn during the meeting, many thanks to Clark's Corvair for donating them.

I was the auctioneer for the set of four polished stainless steel Rampside/Loadside latch backings donated by Dann Weinoe. Mike Hall won them with a bid of \$325 which was donated to the CPF. We also donated \$500 each to the CPF, the CORSA General Fund and the Scholarship Fund. Thank you all for participating! I'm hoping to see even more of you at the next convention in Kalamazoo, MI July 16-19, 2013.



Barbara and John pose with the 8-door during the rally around Quabbin Reservoir.

It's time for me to put in a plug for our fall show in Maggie Valley, NC: *Vairs in the Valley 2012* will be on the 12th and 13th of October. Details are at our website www.ncmountaincorvairs.com. We have added a Rally and also will be having Slow Drags on Saturday because they were so much fun.

Keep your FC's on the road and show them whenever and wherever you can.



John Nickel congratulates Mike Hall on being the winning bidder on a set of polished stainless steel ramp and tailgate latch shells. The proceeds were given to the CPF. Thanks to Dann Weinoe for donating the shells.

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CORVANANTICS is the bi-monthly publication of Corvanatics, a Chartered Chapter of the Corvair Society of America (CORSA). Established September, 1972, Corvanatics is dedicated to the preservation and enjoyment of America's most original and innovative small vans and light trucks, the Chevrolet Corvair 95 Series.

Corvanatics is open to any **CORSA member** with an interest in Forward Control Corvairs. Dues are \$10.00 per year and must be sent to the Secretary/ Treasurer accompanied by a membership application. See directory on this page for address. Applications available on website or from Secretary/ Treasurer.

Stories, articles, photos, memorabilia, or any other item for publication should be sent to the editor. All of these can also be sent by email to: **CorvanAntics@gmail.com**. Technical material will be sent to the Technical Editor for review. Authors are also asked to submit a photograph of themselves for the article.

Classified ads are free to Corvanatics members and should be sent to the editor. Display advertising is also available at the following rates: Full Page: \$25; Half Page: \$15; Quarter Page: \$10; Business Card (2 x 3.5): \$5; Please submit print-ready or typed copy and pre-payment to the editor. Photos for ads are \$6.00 each and can be color or black/white. Authorization and payment must be received for each issue. Deadline for publication is the 15th of February, April, June, August, October, or December.

Web Page Address: www.corvair.org/chapters/corvanatics/

Corvanatics Merchandise

Corvanatics Roster	\$2.00
3 Booklet Set:	
• Paint Codes (Includes cars through 64)	
• Prices and Options	
• Paint and Trim Combinations	\$5.00
PowerGlide Transmissions by Bob Ballew	\$10.00
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Available from Secretary/Treasurer
Corvanatics@gmail.com
Membership and Merchandise payments
can be made through **PayPal**



Corvanatics
*Dedicated to the preservation of
Corvair 95 light trucks and vans*

Check out the latest on the Corvanatics Website. Webmaster Steve Spilatro has introduced a bold new updated look with loads of useful information and links.

<http://www.corvair.org/chapters/corvanatics/>

FCs on Display at Strubridge



Bob King's 1963 Rampside Awarded Silver in Concours



Cal Clark's 1961 Rampside



Fred Marsh's 1962 Rampside

Continued on Page 4

FCs on Display at Strurbridge



Greg Walthour's 1963 Greenbrier



James Law's 1963 Rampside



Jim Forgey's 1964 Greenbrier

I would like to thank Rich Green and Gary Swaitowy for taking the time to photograph the many FCs.

Continued on Page 5

FCs on Display at Strunbridge



John Nickel's 1964 Greenbrier 8-door



Michael Emanuele's 1661 Corvan



Keith Klemm's 1964 Greenbrier 8-door



Larry Claypool's 1963 Greenbrier camper



FCs on Display at Strubridge



Unidentified 1962 Rampside with Ontario Plates



Phil Domser's 1963 Rampside Awarded Gold in Concours



*Phillip Raker 1961 Greenbrier
Awarded Silver in Concours*

Steve Calandra 1962 Corvan

FCs on Display at Strurbridge



Steve Boyden's 1962 Greenbrier Awarded Silver in Concours



Tim Sattler 1965 Corvan



Tim Schwartz 1963 Greenbrier



Larry Schmuhl's 1962 Rampside

For more photos go to: <http://www.corvair.org/chapters/necc/convention/photos.htm>

Corvan Antics 9/10 2012
Secretary/Treasurer
Report

Sturbridge MA
convention, July
2012

There has been a great response to my efforts to get membership under control. Thank you everybody! I realize it was hard to tell when you were due, especially if you were online, but we're finally where I can put it in the Corvanatics. Now if we could get the CORSA IDs completed, we'll be ready.

Since so many members have elected to get their newsletter online, we are in good financial shape and there is no need to change the dues structure.

We've joined the 21st Century finally. We have a PayPal account you can use to pay dues or order patches, and decals. Please use Corvanatics@gmail.com for any mail related to address, phone changes or patch/decals orders or anything else for me.

Our meeting was held in the host hotel at the convention on July 26th, 2012

- President John Nickel called the meeting to order at with 45 members in attendance
- Secretary Larry Schmuhl read the minutes from last year's meeting
 - Minutes accepted by acclamation.
- President John Nickel introduced the effort by the Board of Directors and others to produce a set of By-Laws.
- Secretary read the proposed by-laws; several copies having been passed around.



- Moved and seconded to be accepted pending modifications as described.
- Election of Officers
 - The following were elected by acclamation:
President – John Nickel
Vice President – Sam Christ
Secretary/Treasurer – Molly Bacon
Eastern Director – Tim Schwartz
Central Director – Ken Hand
Western Director – Tim Shortle
Director at Large – Ben Stiles
- Treasurer's report
 - Certificate of Deposit matured in June – cashed in and deposited in savings pending new treasurer - \$2,324.52.
 - Savings account – \$1550.54 (including CD amount) -\$3875.06.
 - PayPal account balance – 360.42.
 - Total all funds - \$6,174.01.
- Motion to donate \$500 each to CPF, Scholarship Fund and CORSA.
 - Seconded and passed.
 - Checks written for delivery at convention by President Nickel.
- President Nickel introduced reproduction latch plates for Rampside pickups made by Dann Weinoe and donated for auction with the proceeds going to the Corvaire Preservation Fund. They will be available for sale soon, and latch mechanisms will follow. There is a choice of finishes; prices and pictures will be in the newsletter when available.
 - An auction was conducted with Mike Hall taking the first set of polished stainless steel with a bid of \$330.
- Mark Corbin made a presentation concerned with the reproduction of the battery door holder found in FC vans. Consensus is to approach Clarks for reproducing them in economically feasible numbers.
- Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted

...Larry Schmuhl, Corvanatics Secretary/Treasurer

Pete Cimbala CPF Curator, Mike Hall Central CORSA Director and Don Kellogg CPF Director and John Nickel at the Corvanatics Annual Meeting just before the auction of the donated latch shells.

From the Secretary

This is my last article in this position. Beginning in September 2012, Molly Bacon is taking over as Secretary/Treasurer. Thanks for your support these last few years, I was honored to serve. Please start using her address for mail, continue to use Corvanatics@gmail.com for email and PayPal. I will be turning this over to Molly shortly.

In your mailing is a roster as of August 2012. Please look yourself up and send in any corrections necessary. Notice that if it is blank, I do not have your CORSA ID. We will need that going forward to avoid a tax from CORSA, so please let Molly or me know your number. If you no longer belong to CORSA, let me know that too.

Please take a moment to send me your CORSA ID as we need to report to CORSA. Drop a post card or e-mail. CORSA will be assessing chapters \$3 a head for non-members, and I need your number to avoid the tax.

Thanks,
...Larry



We had a great time in Sturbridge this year. The care display was awesome. We towed the '62 Rampside up there from Florida, where she performed flawlessly for her 50th birthday.

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Here is an example of one of Dann Weinoe's polished stainless steel latch shells. This was installed using the existing mechanism and handle. Dan will be selling complete units soon. Stay tuned for further information.

Slow Drag

What a sport, seems simple just drive 100 feet or so at the slowest possible pace. The only rules are you can't touch the brakes or the clutch. You can tune your engine or tighten up your brakes, drop the idle rpm, add weight and change the timing. Just remember if the vehicle dies before you reach the finish line you lose.

In these photos Secretary Larry Schmuhl beats President John Nickel to the finish line and loses the drag. I'm not sure who the photographer was, Larry or John may have time to get out and get the shots as the race was on. s



Staging is very critical, automatics have a such an advantage over manuals on take off that classes must be kept separate.



And they're off! It looks like Larry has gotten off to a better, or is it worse, start than John.

But at the finish John pulls behind, all Larry could see was John's headlights.





Fred Marsh's truck came with it's own Mini-RampMe



The three eight door vans lined up was quite a sight. Two of them in the finished second and third in the Autocross. Mike Emanuele coming in second and John Nickel third. Larry Claypool was first with his Greenbrier camper. (Sorry no one sent in autocross pictures.)

Keith Klemm and his family are not currently Corvanatics members. You can bet there is a great story behind their van.



George Koenig

Mr. George H. Koenig

November 19, 1932 - August 20, 2012

George H. Koenig, age 79, of Mountain Home, Arkansas, passed away Monday, August 20, 2012 at the Hospice of the Ozarks Hospice House in Mountain Home. Mr. Koenig was born November 19, 1932 in Washington, Illinois to Henry and Anna (Meier) Koenig. He served his country in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He married the love of his life, Barbara, in Peoria, Illinois. They had a long and happy marriage until Mrs. Koenig passed away November 14, 2011. Mr. Koenig retired from Caterpillar in Peoria after 40 years of service.

Mr. Koenig was a member of the Corvair Club

of Arkansas, Corvanatics Chapter and Corvair Society of America, He loved restoring cars, fishing, and animals, especially his dog "Pal". Mr. Koenig was generous to his friends and neighbors, and could always be counted on when his help was needed.

Mr. Koenig is survived by his daughters Janet Boette of Littleton, Colorado, Jill Koenig of Briggsdale, Colorado, and Jeanne Koenig of Aurora, Colorado, his grandchildren Garrett and Nolan Boette, and a brother Charles Koenig of Dallas, Oregon. He is preceded in death by his parents, his wife, and his daughter, Joan.

Memorial donations may be made to the Humane Society of North Central Arkansas, Services will be private, and arrangements are under the direction of Roller Funeral Home of Mountain Home.



A photo of George at the Shepard of the Hills Car Show August 10, 2012.

Molly Bacon reports from the DACC Homecoming



We weren't able to drive one of FCs to the Homecoming in Detroit, but we enjoyed seeing and photographing the FCs that did make it.

Molly Bacon



Just Another Bump in the Road

By Lillian Law

James and I accepted an invitation to enter our 1963 Rampside in the "Keeneland Concours d'Elegance" in Lexington, Ky. We started our journey early July 18. We usually travel a lot of back roads and enjoy our beautiful countryside. However our adventure occurred on I 75 north of Knoxville just north of Clinton, Tn. It had been a beautiful day a little rain to keep it cool and traffic had moved well. James was driving in the right lane of three lanes of traffic around 70 mph when all of a sudden we saw a piece of metal coming across the two inside lanes of traffic heading straight for us with no time or way to miss it. We hit it with our right front tire. The metal flipped up and knocked a hole in the side of the tire and then hit the body just in front of the rear tire, taking off an area of paint. James was able to steer the truck to the side without being hit or hitting any one

Before we left home James had installed disc brakes on the front of the truck, these calls for 15 inch wheels, this little fact slipped his mind and to his surprise when road service arrived the spare would not fit. In the meantime an officer stopped to check out our problem. I had walked back down the road to see if I could find the "Beauty Ring" that was knocked off. A second trooper arrived to check out the "elderly lady" walking down the side of the road. He repeated "elderly lady" twice. We had called AAA and the tow truck arrived in less than an hour, by the time we discovered we would have to have a new tire it was late in the afternoon. The solution that the tow driver and the trooper came up with would be load the truck on the rollback and take us to the motel at the exit we had just passed, (assuring us that we did not want to stay at the next exit) to spend the night. I got to ride in the trooper's car, but he would not let me blow the Siren.

The next morning the tow truck came to the motel loaded the truck back on the rollback and carried us to a tire store. The trooper came by to check on us while we were waiting for the tow truck the next morning. The tire store did not have the tire we needed, after making a few calls someone was dispatched to pick up one in Knoxville. The new one was installed and we were on our way.

Everyone we came in contact with was super nice. We are so thankful that no one was injured, as the trooper said "we did not need an ambulance or a fire truck". We consider it just a bump in the road. When any one travels as much as we do

some thing is bound to happen. We checked out the metal the next morning, James said it was a piece of brake drum and the truck driver probably did not know it busted until he put on brakes. We have no idea which truck or most likely trailer it came off of.

In the meantime I had called Hagerty Insurance to report the accident. Immediately I was asked if we needed a tow truck. We carry AAA because it is good on any vehicle and has a longer tow area than Hagerty. We told them we wanted to return home to get the repairs taken care of, Hagerty instructed us to send bill for tire, estimate for repairs along with a picture of the damage and they would cut a check. The check arrived in less than 10 days with no questions asked except for the details of the accident.

We continued on our journey, attending the awesome show in Lexington parked with the high dollar automobiles. Packard was the featured marquee. There were automobiles of all kinds from micro minis to the big name and one of a kind. We felt much honored to be asked to enter. If you ever get a chance check out one of these shows. This show was on Saturday. It was held at the horse race track, because they have a huge show field they also have Clubs that come and display their cars to be enjoyed but not judged. We knew we would not win a trophy and that is not the reason we attended. We get as much attention as the best of the vehicles and it gives



us a chance to meet wonderful people and share our knowledge of Corvairs.

We left Lexington early on Sunday morning and continued on to our destination The National Corsa (Corvair) Convention in Sturbridge Mass. What a beautiful drive. When we arrived home August 1 we had driven our 1963 Corvair Rampside 2986 miles. We received the longest distance Corvair driven award, a \$100.00 Shell Gas Gift Card. That helped a little bit on the \$648.00 gasoline bill.

We are hoping repairs will be completed in time for us to attend the Hilton Head Island Concours d'Elegance the first week end in November.

Photo by Rich Green



Keith Klemm, Michael Emanuele, and John Nickel line up their 8-door Greenbriers for a rare shot.

CorvanAntics

newsletter

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