

LEEKY



SEEL

CORVAIR MINNESOTA NEWSLETTER

October 2012

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Here it is, October already. 2012 seemed to fly faster than most summers (maybe it was just the extended heat). Looking back, I personally logged a lot of firsts and a few lasts as time marched on. I attended my first auto auction and purchased my first (and last) Mercedes Benz. I also sold my first (and last!!!) Mercedes this year. My son, Brad, built his first car with a little help from the Eden Prairie High School and members of CMI. I also went to Eden Prairie High School for the last time as Brad graduated. I attended my first college graduation as a parent as my daughter, Chelsea, graduated from Beloit College. When you read this, I will have also watched her purchase her first new car, a Dolphin Gray Mazda 3. I watched Chelsea get her first real paying job and saw Brad to college for his first year at the South Dakota School of Mines and Engineering. We barely had time for Corvairs.

As fleeting as 2012 was, I'm already thinking ahead to 2013. Hemmings Great American Race will start in St. Paul on Sunday in conjunction with Back to the Fifties and wind down the Mississippi River to Mobile Alabama. I'm not sure I can get that much time off (almost two weeks there and back) but Cara and I have already committed to the CORSA convention in Kalamazoo, Michigan in July. I'm hoping that we get a great CMI representation at the convention. We'll also have GMCCA, drive-ins, and other car shows to look forward to.

Speaking of events what do *you* want to do in 2013? We had some wonderful suggestions in the past and need new ideas and events to keep things

fresh and fun. Nobody wants to do the same old thing every year. Want to host an event? Call us. Have an idea for a drive-in? Let us know. Destination for a fall run? We'll listen. We'll help plan. We'll promote. Just let us know. We will be putting together a calendar of events for 2013 and hope to have it ready in time for the Holiday/Dues Party.

It was great to see the large turn-out at The Tin Shed at the September meeting. The food was great even if the service was a bit slow. We have the 53rd anniversary of the Corvair at Cuzzy's in Chaska on Tuesday the 2nd. I've reserved seating and am hoping the weather is nice enough for everyone to drive their Corvairs. We'll circle Lenzen Chevrolet's car lot a couple times if the weather is good. Our member meeting is the following Tuesday at Mike Jenkins' house. A map is included elsewhere in the SEEL. We will be opening nominations for 2013 officers at the meeting so please nominate someone or if you'd like to be an officer, have someone nominate you.

Stay tuned,
Lee Knauf
CMI President



CORVAIR MINNESOTA
General Membership Meeting
September 11, 2012

President Lee Knauf called the meeting to order at 7:05, welcoming 50 people to the Little Tin Shed in Savage. Our first guest was Charlie Kinney of Buffalo who some members met at Saturday's car show in Buffalo. Charlie's father built the first V-8 powered Corvair which was featured in Hot Rod magazine in 1964. Regrettably, Charlie's father later died in this car. However, his father manufactured 3 kits and Charlie is trying to locate one so he can replicate his Father's car, a good winter(s) project for him and CMI members! Jim Sheehan attended as a guest of Gary's. . .he has never owned a Corvair and is ok with that!

Treasurer's Report: CMI now has a balance of \$3278.

Recent Events:

August 12: Alexanders' Backyard BBQ featured great food and hospitality. It rained just enough to prevent us playing lawn golf on the course Ray had prepared across his neighborhood.

September 1: Fire and Ice returned to Marshalltown, Iowa. . .no one made the trip.

Sept 8: Classics by the Lake, Buffalo. It was a perfect day to attend a 600 car show in a park bordering a lake. We had 5 club Corvairs and one non-club. Best in show was awarded to a '57 Cameo Carrier.

Sept 15 – 16: Fall Run: We were disappointed that we had to cancel this event due to lack of interest and/or conflicts with family events. Fran had developed an interesting schedule of airplanes and Corvairs!

Upcoming Events:

Sept 15: Family Funfest in Buffalo. Church carnival with car show from 11-4.

Oct 2: Corvair Birthday at Cuzzy's in Chaska at 6:15. E-mail Lee by 9/27 to reserve a spot.

Oct 9: Membership meeting at Mike Jenkins' home in Andover, map will be in Seel. Mike can test your gasoline sample for alcohol content.

Oct 13: ICE once again has the Marshalltown track contracted.

Oct 27: Adopt-A-Highway. . .meet at Dobo's restaurant. 16 members needed. Rain date will be following Saturday or during the week, we'll determine on the 27th, if necessary.

Nov 13: CMI returns to the MUM. This meeting will be election of 2013 officers. **NOMINATIONS ARE NOW OPEN!**

Dec Dues Party: First or second Sunday evening at Latuff's, we will have the entire restaurant.

2013 National CORSA Convention: Kalamazoo, Michigan won the competition to host this event. This is a drivable distance, so you now have only 10 months to complete your projects for display! There are a number of great car museums in the area so plan on attending.

Other Topics: Bill Cook expressed a need for more membership input about events they would like to participate in so we can have better attendance

CORSA: Paul Sargeant was in attendance as he is now a CORSA board member. He gave us a good update on the convention in Sturbridge, MA.

PRIZES!: President Lee held a contest at his PETCO store for people to guess how many tennis balls were in the trunk of his late couple. Similarly, he held the same contest for us. The exact number was **1228!** Winning guess was Mary Schmit at 1250, winning a \$25 gas card. . .now Mary will have to take up driving!

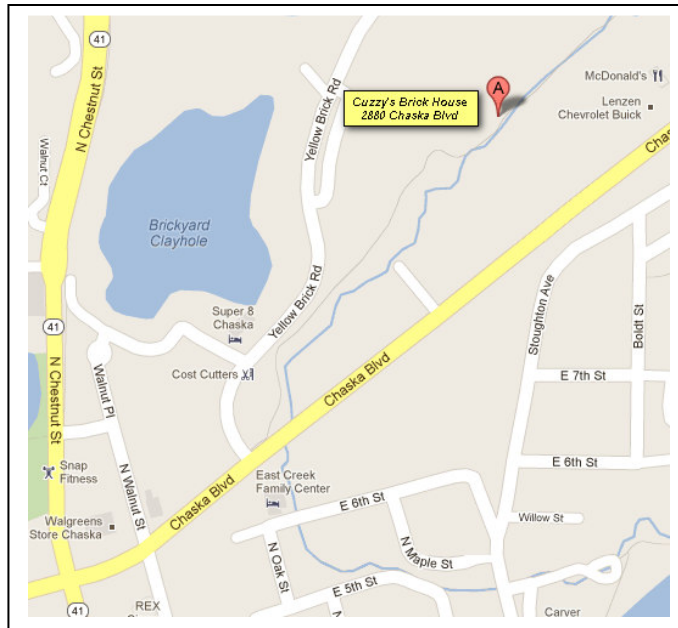
Meeting was adjourned at 7:37.

Respectfully submitted,

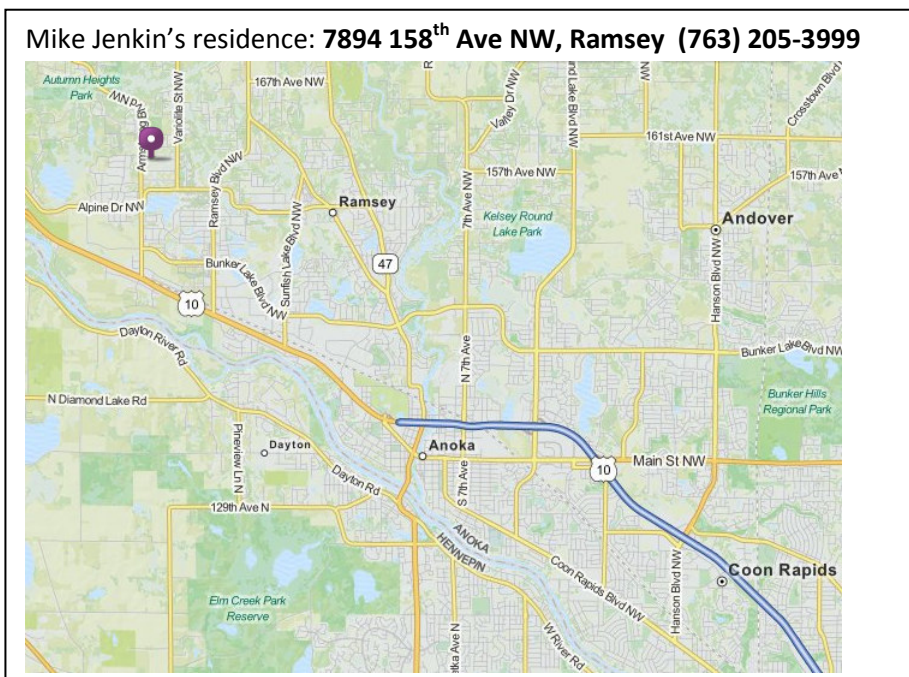
Chuck Johnson



Corvair Minnesota Upcoming Events



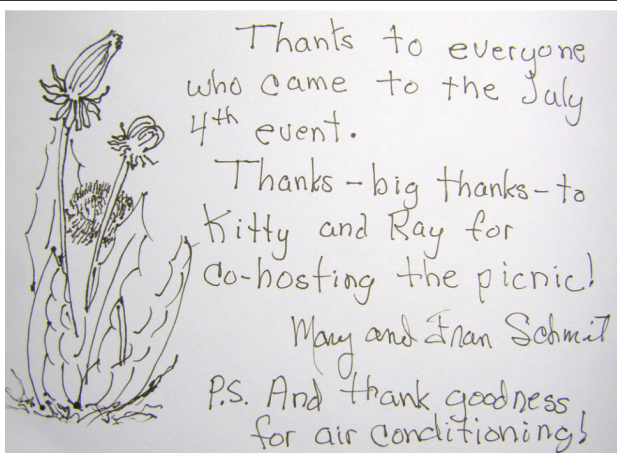
- Oct**
- 02 53rd anniversary of the Introduction of the Corvair – Cuzzy’s in Shakopee – 6:15 pm
 - 09 Membership meeting – Mike Jenkin’s home – Andover 7:00 pm
 - 14 Roadsters Swap Meet, State Fairgrounds (<http://roadsterstwicities.com/>)
 - 25 Board of Directors
 - 27 Adopt a Highway – meet at Dobo’s (on Highway 55) at 8:00 am (see flyer on page 5)
- Nov**
- 06 Membership meeting – MUM (Messiah United Methodist, Plymouth (voter’s meeting)) – 7:00 pm
 - TBD** Board of Directors
- Dec**
- TBD** CMI Annual Holiday Dues Party – Latuff’s (in Plymouth)
 - TBD** Board of Directors



Fourth of July, 2012

Edina parade and post-parade-picnic (hosted by Mary + Fran Schmit and Kitty + Ray Alexander)

"A few went inside but most of us stayed out in the breezy-shadenot in the sun." *Fran Schmit*



Mary's dandelion sketch in reference to the picnic in their well kept yard.



Oh, Phil George sent me this photo.....his nephew was watching the parade and sent the pic to Philip (who now lives in Santiago, Chile) , who sent it to me...! Philip said that all his family members who watched the parade were thrilled by all the beautiful CORVAIRS.

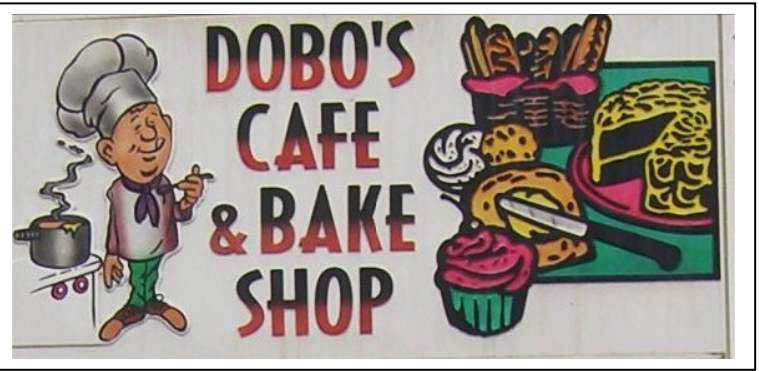


Peter's GB had a problem during the parade--- he took out the gas tank as soon as he got home (in the heat of the day!!!) the fuel filter was plugged with crap. He wants folks to know that the problem is not bad fuel (as in the hated Ethanol) but in poor maintenance. He knew the sender was corroded and was intending to R&R the tank but just thought he could squeeze in one more parade event. He got in the parade but was a little embarrassed by the sputtering. On July 5 we carried the ailing tank down to Shakopee to have Mike at "Tank Renu" (Gary Nelson uses them "all the time", says Mike) clean and seal the tank, inside and out, for a lifetime guarantee.

A good day was had by all! *Fran*



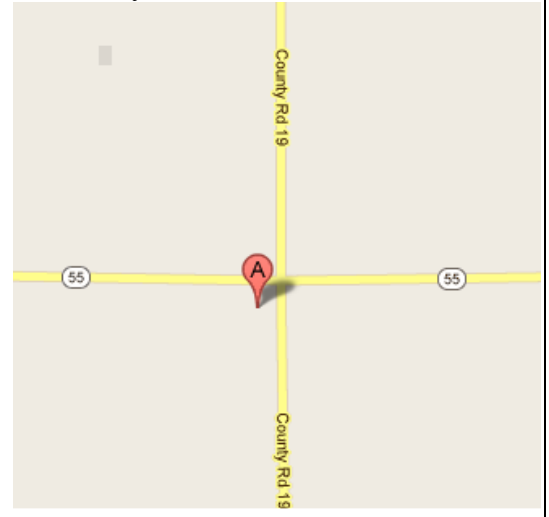
CMI does AAH: Adopt A Highway



October 27, (with rain date of Nov 3); meet for breakfast @ 8:00 at Dobo's on Highway 55. Clean-up will start after breakfast, and will take a couple of hours. Afterwards, meet for lunch at Dobo's for those who want. This information is mostly for those who have signed up, but will not be at the membership meeting at Mike Jenkins' house. Mike will provide a television and dvd player so we can review the DOT video at the October 9th meeting.

After the meeting, Cliff Picht will send an e-mail to all who signed up to remind them of date, time, what to wear, etc. He also plans to get some more grabbers, and some more vests, just so we will be supplied for next year too.

4425 Hwy 55, Loretto



Fuel Pressure Regulation

The numerous stories about the failure-modes of the CORVAIR mechanical Fuel Pump are well documented. We won't go into them here. Let's assume you have seen the light and have switched over to some form of Electric.

You now can start your engine in the spring without getting out the gas can and pouring liquid down into your air cleaner..... and several of the other advantages of the "switch". I just noticed an additional variation on the 'electric' theme that I'd like to pass on.

Some carbs are sensitive to the fuel pressure delivered to them, especially over 5 PSI. If you have trouble with flooding when driving slowly but no problems at speed, you may have fuel pressure that is too high for your needle valves. There are lots of ways to fix that.....I have just happened upon an additional-easy way that I didn't know about before.

Electric-vane type fuel pumps are prone to failure when driving in "parade mode". The reason is that the fuel flowing through the pump is what keeps the pump cool, and the 'parading' fuel pump is running steadily while the 'parading' fuel flow is held amazingly low! The pump's innards get too hot and the plastic brush holder fails, killing the pump. To keep fuel flowing through the pump, at all times, a return line is added to send some of the pressurized fuel back to the tank (All Turbos had this return line built in at the factory). This keeps the fuel flowing and the pump intact...and....and.... it also drops the delivered pressure to the carb/s.....which is why I started this note. The size of the return line determines how much of a drop you will get, but a 1 - 3 PSI drop is typical. The actual pressure drop can be fine-tuned with a vise-grip. The most successful return systems put the excess fuel back into the tank, for maximum cooling effect.....FC's have a nice fitting on the top of the tank for that return line when a gas heater is installed and the cars use a tee fitting in the gas-tank's vent tube. Now we can add yet another advantage to changing over to an electric fuel pump. *Fran*

St John's Family Fun Fest

This was St. John's third Family Fun Fest and the event was just as fun as the last two. We had Elvis impersonators, ten nice cars (3 Corvairs!), lots of great food, games and face painting for the kids (even a couple of bouncy buildings), and did I mention pie?



Mr/ Mrs Ackley's 1960



Is that pie, Fran?



One of two Elvises (Elvi?)



The cotton candy was so good you could wear it!



Ackley's '60, Schmit's '64, Cliff's '02, & my '61 Rampy

Classics by the Lake Car Show

The Fourth Annual Classics by the Lake Car Show was held on Saturday, September 8th, in Buffalo. An estimated 500+ collectible cars were on display in Sturges Park on the shores of Buffalo Lake. Construction in the downtown area prompted the change in location. The weather was beautiful - a little windy closer to the lake, but beautiful. Seeing all the cars amid the trees and grass was a nice setting. The rolling terrain made walking somewhat difficult for those of us with tender knees, but it was a minor inconvenience. There were several food vendors in the park serving breakfast sandwiches and lunch items. There was also live music and games. Having the awards ceremony in the band shell was an improvement over previous years. There were no Corvair (or Corvette) winners from our club, but Doug Karon's beautiful black 1967 Jaguar XKE convertible won the Spectator's Award and Teresa Conley's perfect 1957 Chevy Cameo Pickup won Best in Show. This truck underwent a ground-up restoration that was truly stunning. Some participants were disappointed that the show couldn't be held on the downtown streets, among the restaurants and various shops. The Car Show Committee has not yet decided where the 2013 show will be held, but we'll keep you posted. Everything considered, this is still one of the best car shows to attend -- *Billy Cook*



From left to right: Lee Knauf, Ron Lucas, Fran Schmit, Chuck Johnson, Cliff Picht & Bill Cook

Summer Spectacular

OK, so can you imagine a mixed make car show where every Corvair entered won a prize? Well that's the way it went down at the annual Summer Spectacular at the Dakota County Fairgrounds this year. Well, okay, there was only one Corvair – my Rampside and the competition was fierce enough to hold me to third place! The weather was ideal, the cars were amazing, there was a live DJ, all kinds of 'fair' food was available and there was even a wide variety of interesting vendors. Have you seen Lil' Stinker (the '47 manure spreader on an S-10 chassis? Yep – Bruce Bauer brought it by to show it off. Next year y'all should come out too. *John*



pancake breakfast and a color guard –
great way to start a day!



Every Corvair in the show



Bruce Bauer shows off his '47 David Bradley
(manure spreader)



So how's this for a '55 Nomad?

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

- | | | |
|-----|------------------------------------|------------|
| 65 | Rocker panel trim | \$150.00 |
| 64 | NOS Rear Grill | \$150.00 |
| all | 2 Speed Wiper Motor w/wire harness | \$ 20.00 |
| | Used distributor | \$ 25.00 |
| 65 | Good Used Hub Caps (4) | \$ 40.00 |
| all | License Plates, 62-64 w/tabs, 65 | \$10.00/pr |
| all | Rear Engine Comp. Rubber seal | \$ 10.00 |
| all | Oil Filter Adapter w Bolt | \$ 20.00 |
| | Late front Spoiler, repairable | \$ 10.00 |
| | Late dash Shifter Lever | \$ 5.00 |

Assorted Tune up Parts price on each item
Rich Buratto 612-743-6706

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: 1963 Monza convertible

I am helping one of my fellow writers at Sports Car Market look for a 1963 Monza convert. He's specifically looking for black with a red interior, as that was his first car. No projects; he's looking for a well restored car (think Rich Buratto's Trophy Magnet as a '63) or exceptional original. He's not so fussy about power train, and may even consider a Spyder if it's in good enough condition. Need not be local, as he's in California, so it would be shipped. Contact me with details.

Brian Carlson

bmitchell@juno.com (best)

651-955-2290 (cell, better)

651-739-1608 (home, not so bad)

To all the CMI'ers, It has come time to sell my **1964** Corvair Monza Convertible (aka Trophy Magnet) I have owned this car for 23 years. I wanted to let CMI know that the car was up for sale before I put it on Craigslist, etc. Most of you know the car from GMCCA, Stone Arch Show, Edina Parade, etc. This car got a Bronze at the Cedar Rapids 2010 CORSA National Convention. I recently sold my yellow 65 and red 63 Spyder. The black 64 is the last to go. No I'm not abandoning CMI, just doing some other things, and need to be able to get all my vehicles in the garage. Thanks Rich Buratto 612-743-6706



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.

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Zip *printing & copy shop*

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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!

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THE LEEKY SEEL

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Remember to get those officer nominations in!