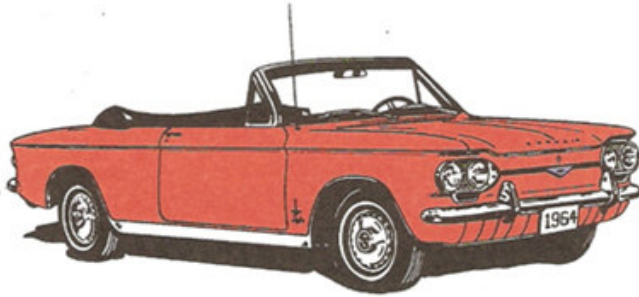


LEEKY



President's Page

So we went from the warmest March on record (80 degrees on St. Patrick's Day, 2012) to one of the coldest on record a year later. The last few days have been bone chilling. I had planned on rolling out my '69 next week but now I'm not so sure. Ah the joys of living in Minnesota.

We had a great turn out for the member's meeting at the Minneapolis Car Show in March. I'd like to thank Chuck Johnson for procuring the meeting room for us again this year. I thought the car show was very well done though I was disappointed that the 2014 Corvette wasn't in attendance. Cara and I went the following Wednesday and did some serious car shopping. I concluded that we were seriously car shopping because we didn't even sit in the Land Rovers or Jaguars. I would have to say the highlight of the show was Camp Jeep. We took the ride on their obstacle course and it was quite impressive. We also kept Chuck company on the second floor for a while in the afternoon (maybe that was the real highlight).

As I am apt to do, I was looking at Corvairs on line and came across an interesting one for sale on Autabuy a while back. It has a mid-engine 350 Chevy V-8 with a Kelmark Kit. What caught my eye was the nose of the car. Apparently the owner wanted to emphasize that the Chevy Monza from the mid-70s was descended from the Corvair Monza from the sixties as he grafted a '75 Monza front end to the late Corvair body. There is only a photo of the front so I can't tell how well the side profile looks (the front looks not too bad). Not something I would do but interesting nonetheless.



SEEL

CORVAIR MINNESOTA NEWSLETTER

April 2013



Our "Corvair Season" will be kicking off on April 20th with the annual Pancake Breakfast. Details appear elsewhere in the SEEL. We have another great year planned but there is always room for one more activity, cruise night, car show... All you need to do is let me or another officer know and we will get it scheduled or mention it in the SEEL or at a meeting.

As mentioned, we had one of the coldest months of March on record. It'll warm up eventually and we'll all be able to enjoy our Corvairs and welcome the snow birds of the club back to the land of loons and 10,000 lakes.

Stay Tuned
Lee Knauf



CORVAIR MINNESOTA General Membership Meeting

March 12, 2013

President Lee Knauf called the meeting to order at 7 p.m., welcoming everyone to our third annual MSP Auto Show Meeting. Attendance was about 20 people, including a guest of Joe Schwert and Dave Edwinson's son.

February Minutes: Read and approved.

Treasurer's Report: We have \$3791 in our treasury.

Upcoming Events:

April 9 Meeting. Back to the MUM one more time before our summer schedule kicks in.

April 20: (DATE CHANGE from April 27). CMI's Annual pancake breakfast at the MUM from 9 – 11, with clean-up and evacuation before noon. Dan Quinn volunteered to organize the event this year. Start digging out your Corvairs now!

May 4: Adopt-A-Highway: Sign-up at the April meeting.

May14: CMI's first offsite meeting to be held at The Fishtale Grill in New Prague.

June 9: GMCCA – Mark your calendars! This year CMI will be in charge of the car corral in addition to our usual gate.

July 16 -20: 2013 National CORSA Convention: Kalamazoo, Michigan, only 3 months remain to complete your projects!

Other Events/Activities: Please be on the lookout for other shows and events we can participate in. While we have a number of planned events, people are open to spur of the moment trips and events. Also, watch for club projects like last year's parade flag holders.

BREAK: Treats were "on your own"

TECH SESSION: Everyone adjourned to the auto show. MSRA (Minn. Street Rods Assn) was had a display of about a dozen cars including a '61 CORVAIR! Even better, it was displayed next to a '61 Cadillac convertible . . . reminded us of how small the Corvair was compared to its contemporaries.

The meeting was adjourned to the auditorium floor at 7:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Chuck Johnson

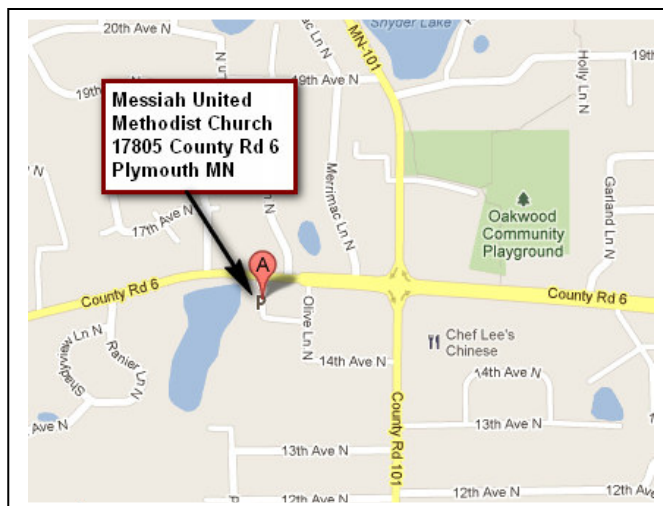
On March 13th the Southwest division of Corvair Minnesota met ate Logan's Roadhouse for dinner and conversation. In attendance were Cooks, Burattos, Berges, Lucases, and Dotys. A good time was had a good time. Cook's Sasha rested in comfort in AC car while we dined. We discussed having a Chili party next January. Submitted by Rich Buratto.



Upcoming Corvair Minnesota Events:

CMI's last non-drive-in meeting, April 9th, will be at the MUM once again (7:00 p.m.).

The MUM will also be the site for CMI's annual pancake breakfast. Bring your wives/husbands and significant others (and hopefully your 'Vairs) to share good food and good friends on Saturday, April 20th from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.



- April**
- 09 Membership meeting MUM – **7:00 p.m.**
 - 13-14 GSTA, Coliseum, State Fair Grounds (<http://www.gstarod-custom.com>)
 - 20 Pancake breakfast – MUM **9:00 – 11:00 a.m.**
 - 19-20 Inventor's Congress Invention & Idea Show, Redwood Falls (<http://www.minnesotainventorscongress.org/>)
 - 25 Board of Directors – Schmit family residence
- May**
- 04 Adopt a Highway, **8:00 – noon**. Watch for additional details in the next SEEL
 - 05 Spring Extravaganza Car Show and Swap Meet, State Fairgrounds, (www.gopherstatebuick.org)
 - 07 Membership meeting – Fishtale Grill & Bar, New Prague, **7:00 p.m.**
 - 19 First Fifty Auto Parts Sale & Swap Meet, State Fairgrounds
 - 23 Board of Directors
- June**
- 02 10,000 Lakes Concours d'Elegance, Excelsior, MN (www.10000lakesconcours.com)
 - 09 GMCCA – State Fairgrounds
 - 12 Membership meeting - Wagners' in Brooklyn Park, **6:30 p.m.**
 - 21-23 Back to the 50's, State Fairgrounds (www.msra.com) (Start of Great American Race June 22nd)
 - 27 Board of Directors – **TBD**
- July**
- 04 Fourth of July Parade, Delano – Post Parade Picnic Peppermint Twist
 - 10 Membership meeting - Minnetonka Drive-in in Spring Park, **6:30 p.m.**
 - 20-22 Car Craft Summer Nationals Car show, State Fairgrounds (<http://www.familyevents.com/event/233>)
 - 16-20 CORSA National Convention Kalamazoo, MI
 - 25 Board of Directors – **TBD**
 - 26-28 Little Log House show, Hastings (<http://www.littleloghouseshow.com>)
 - 26-28 Kolacky Days, Montgomery, MN (Classic car show 7/27) (<http://www.montgomerymn.org/kdaycar.html>)



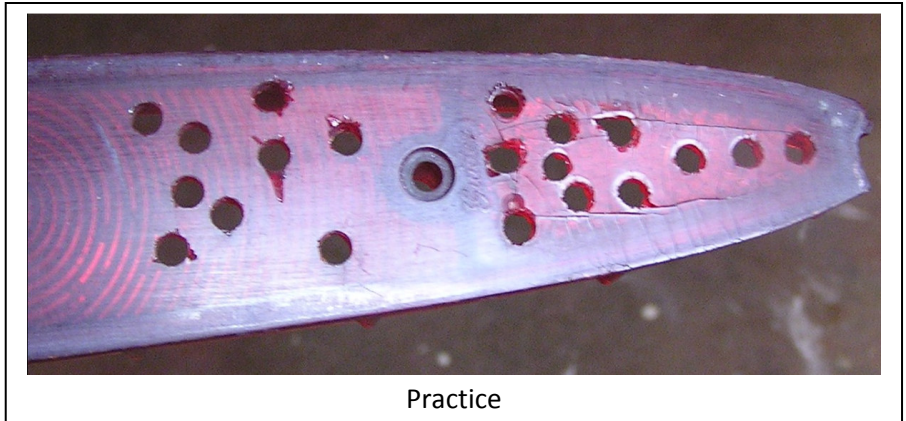
Working all winter on my Rampside

I have been doing the body on my Rampside, all winter, and it is now getting close to being ready! One of the things I am preparing is a slight modification to the Taillight assembly. You may recall the FC taillight assy. is pointy on the outside end of a horizontal 8" long red lens. There is a single bulb, on each side, for the only rear lighting of the vehicle...I don't like having only a single light (you may recall my putting three lights per side on my Late models) so I have decided to add some LEDs to each FC light. The best way IMHO is to put the LEDs in the lens (where the reflector is) – out on the pointy end – sort of like an arrow pointing left/right when I signal.



Three on a side

I bought some LEDs and decided that ten of them would be about right. I scratched around with a pencil till I decided on an attractive pattern of ten. I got an old lens and practiced drilling holes in the plastic – turns out there's more to it than just drilling as you have to reshape the tip of the drill bit or it will grab and break the lens apart! See photo of practice lens!



Practice



Ten LEDs

After some experimentation I was able to drill holes that were the correct size for the LEDs to be pushed tightly into the FC lens from the inside – the outside of the lens will have little shiny bumps on it that are not really noticeable – till they light up! This photo shows the ten lens pattern with just room light coming through.

31st ALL GM CAR / TRUCK SHOW & SWAP MEET

SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 2013 • 9 AM – 3 PM

Sponsored by

GENERAL MOTORS CAR CLUBS ASSOCIATION

MINNESOTA STATE FAIRGROUNDS - MACHINERY HILL

- GM Show cars & trucks enter from Larpenteur
- Swappers enter from Snelling Main Gate
- Spectators enter from Snelling or Larpenteur

• SWAPPERS: ALL MAKES AUTO PARTS WELCOME •

SPECTATORS

- * General Admission: \$5.00/Adult
- * Children under 12: FREE

- * STATE FAIR RULES PROHIBIT:
OPEN FIRES, BBQ'S AND
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES.
PETS ON LEASHES ONLY.

PARTICIPANTS AWARDS FOR...
BUICK • CADILLAC • CHEVROLET
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CAMARO • CHEVELLE & NOVA
OLDSMOBILE • PONTIAC
CHEVROLET & GMC TRUCKS

PREREGISTER FOR: GUARANTEED SPACE (until 10 AM) -
REDUCED RATES FOR SHOW VEHICLES - DASH PLAQUE

SHOW VEHICLES & SWAPPERS: GATES OPEN AT 7 AM

Make checks payable to and send pre-registration form to:
GMCCA, 4011 Fordham Dr. N.E., Minneapolis, MN 55421-4336

REGISTRATION FORM

GM SHOW VEHICLE

Make _____ Year _____

Model _____

Preregister before May 15th - \$10, after May 15 - \$15
Car, driver & one passenger per admission

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____

Car Club Affiliation (if any) _____

SWAP SPACE - 15' x 20' Space
\$10 each preregistered before 5/15
\$15 each after 5/15

NEW PRODUCT VENDORS
\$20 (In Display Area)

FOR SALE AREA (All Makes)
\$15 per vehicle preregistered before 5/15
\$20 per vehicle after 5/15
NO 'For Sale' signs allowed in the show area

MAPS, SHOW CHANGES, FLYER, ETC. ON:
WWW.AUTOSWALK.COM

GMCCA CAR SHOW

Club assignments were realigned this year to better distribute the work load amongst all of the GM car clubs.

As a result, this year we will also be in charge of the car corral which is just north of our display. I think this will require two people from 9-11 and 1 person thereafter.

These vehicles have a different color registration than our display cars, so they are easy to identify and we assist in parking them in an orderly manner, ensuring there is room for their doors to be opened without hitting the other "For Sale Vehicles".

Also, make sure these vehicles do not sneak into the show itself . . . they exit the same gate where we collect entrance fees.

Additional ideas are welcome; this is the perfect time of year to be selling cars, so anything we can do to build this up will help our show, and therefore our treasury.

While you are contemplating this, kick around any ideas to freshen our CMI exhibit, perhaps selecting specific vehicles to highlight on our grassy area; display Gary's rebuilt suspension before it is put in his car, or whatever.

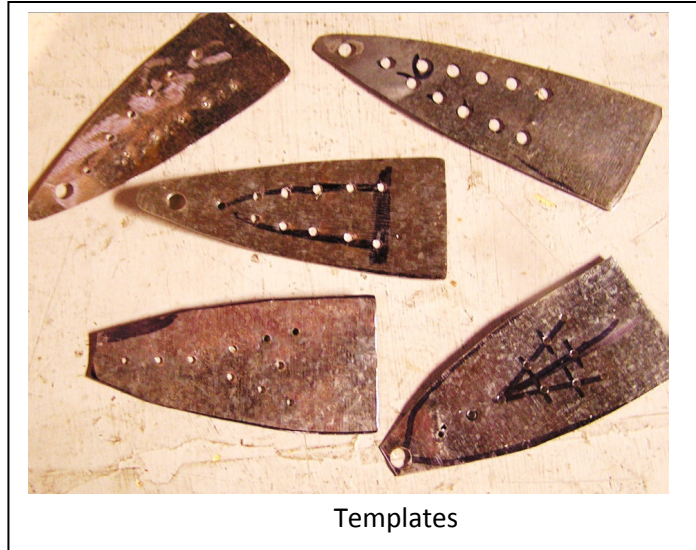
There is a good chance that several GMC motor homes will be in attendance this year. If so, everyone should be aware that they will be diverted through the car corral to park in the lot directly east of CMI's exhibit. This is being done to increase the safety of everyone by not having these drive the normal route through the show.

This is not only a great fund raiser for our club, it is an opportunity to showcase our cars and trucks and attract new members.

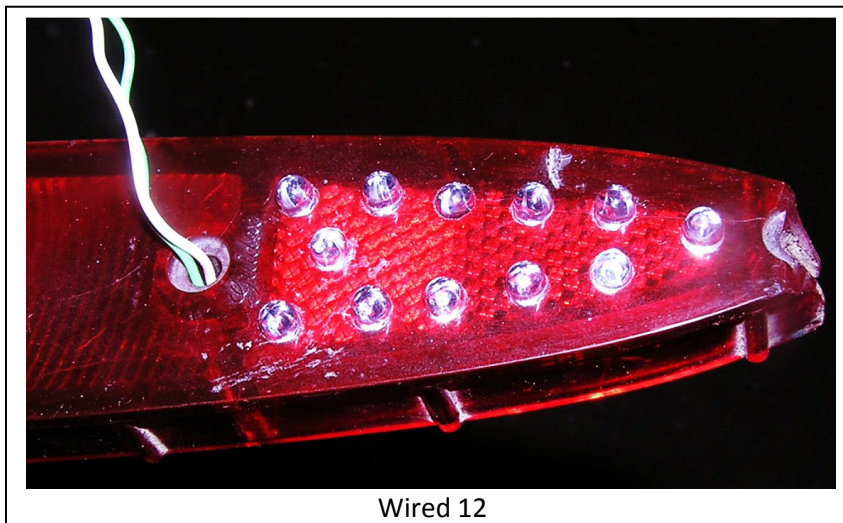


Not only is it hard to drill properly through the plastic lens but it is also very hard to get the holes lined up – correctly. If you care to look closely at the photo of ten you will see what a poor job I did. I could focus on the bad parts but I'm not really trying to show-off my failures, so suffice it to say I was not satisfied with the quality of the workmanship. I also discovered that ten LEDs is not a good choice as it takes about 2 Volts per LED so six would be a better fit in a 12 Volt system. I didn't like that choice as that's not enough Bling, so I went with twelve LEDs for the newer design.

I decided on an acceptable pattern for the new design and then tried to lay out the holes – given that I am not very talented in that regard I took especial care in measuring and drilling small holes in a metal guide – as a drilling template. See photo of some of my templates.....not one of which was anywhere good enough!!!



I am in awe of those machinists who can lay-out a pattern to the nearest thousandths of an inch and then cut exactly where they have drawn – incredible! I measured and re-measured and used calipers and rulers and then scribed the metal and used a very small drill to center my work and finally used a sharpened center punch in an arbor press to shove through the metal where my lines had crossed. My last pattern was close enough on one side that I decided to chance using half of it and then flipping it over for the other side. I then transferred it to my last practice lens and drilled the LED holes. It looked as though I had mastered the pattern! Till I put in the LEDs!!! Take a look at this effort, which I am going to call, “good enough”.



I bought two new lens from Clark's and plan to drill into them when I am ABSOLUTELY certain I have everything correct - - scratch that “correct” stuff....I'll go with when I have everything ‘good enough’.

All that is left is to design and build the electrical part - - Wish me luck. *Fran*

BIG Shocks For FCs And The Early's Rear

I have decided after many years of experience that no shocks listed/sold for the Early's rear or the FCs are adequate. There is a big enough shock listed for a Dodge D100 Truck - - a Monroe Gas Magnum that does DO THE JOB! I put them on all my FCs and Early's rears. Monroe's part #34831

Recently I noticed the rubber - holding the cross-pin at the bottom of all four shocks on my Rampside - was wiggling out of the assembly and the rubber around the pin was cracking. See photo at right. I bought two new Gas Magnums but they were not as robust as the old ones I had on my Rampside (different part number but same application)....but my old shocks were just fine!!



Except for the little problem with the rubber. (See same cracked-up photo)

I asked around for repairs and was told about pieces of rubber hose that could be shoved in there. I agreed that they probably went in that way in the first place, but I didn't have the hose or the tools. I looked some more. I was thinking if I could find an elastomer like that in the CORVAIR's "front end" pivots - that would be great. No luck. I did find something worth pursuing, it seems to me.



Eastwood sells an elastomer - almost like epoxy - only this is for repairing the plastic car bumpers on modern cars. See Eastwood photo. I bought some - mixed it up - tested the final product.....IT'S CLOSE! It is strong; I think it will take the abuse down there by the spring. It is slightly flexible - about like Pine rather than Oak! It sticks very well but can be made to slip on a polished/smooth shaft like the cross-pin of the Gas Magnum. Eastwood sells an elastomer - almost like epoxy - only this is for repairing the plastic car bumpers on modern cars. See Eastwood photo. I bought some - mixed it up - tested the final product.....IT'S CLOSE! It is strong; I think it will take the abuse down there by the spring. It is slightly flexible - about like Pine rather than Oak! It sticks very well but can be made to slip on a polished/smooth shaft like the cross-pin of the Gas Magnum.

So, I cleaned up a pair of my dysfunctional Monroes, and made a fixture to hold Shock and Cross-Pin in the right position - during the cure. The job was a bit messy (See messy photo) so I used a power wire brush to eat away some of the excess elastomer. See photo - cleaned up.



Messy!

I plan to mount these repaired shocks and do a test run - with bumping and bouncing. I figure the cross-pin might break loose from the elastomer and rotate (slightly) during operation. I anticipate good results in the short run but don't know about longevity, especially if the pin tries to move axially. Of course, the factory's method didn't last forever, either. Check back with me in a few years!

Fran Schmit



Repaired

CMI Classifieds

1964 Greenbrier Deluxe – pretty nice. \$15000.
Peter Schmit; Schmitpm@gmail.com 952-935-5166

Parts 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

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)

1967 Monza convertible, over 16 K worth of receipts/ spent on restoration in the 1990's and still in respectable condition. The car was gold/ gold but now is Nantucket Blue with a white interior and top. The top and interior are mint. Automatic, manual steering & brakes. Inquiries welcome. \$5000 OBO.

Phil 218-634-2882 (eves) or psjohn@mncable.net

BEAUTIFUL BAUDETTE, MN (CANADIAN BORDER)





1964 Monza Convertible, 110hp, Automatic, New interior, Runs Great, Great people choice car, has won many awards, Bronze Medal at 2010 National Convention. Rich Buratto, 612-743-6706 \$9000 OBO.

MRPOPCORN@aol.com (available end of April)

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.

Also: 1969 110hp engine (runs great, sealed & pretty) Rare – aftermarket tube style early air grill – Solid flywheel

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

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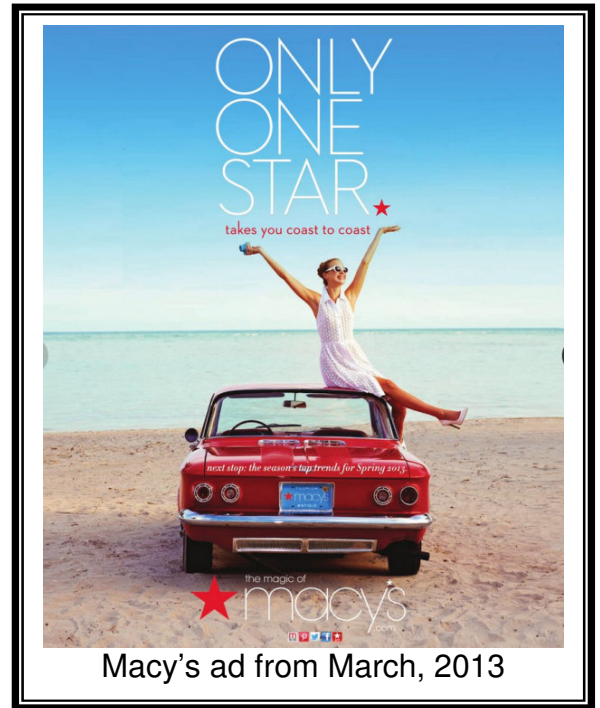
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Macy's ad from March, 2013

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

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