

LEEKY



SEEL

CORVAIR MINNESOTA NEWSLETTER

January 2014

President's Page

Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and all those festive cheers (if not a little late). Having been a retail store manager for the last several decades you would think that I would plan better and not have to rush at the last minute. But as always, the Holidays snuck up on me again and I missed last month's SEEL deadline so again, a belated Happy Holidays to everyone, though I realize that we will be granting more holiday cheer at Latuff's on January 5th.

As with the start of every New Year, I always think this will be the year that will be nice and calm and Cara and I will get to participate in all the Corvair, boating, and other activities that we enjoy. I thought that last year but then my boss sent me to North Dakota for half the summer, I blew up my '69's engine going to Eau Claire, and the only water our boat saw was when it rained. Not that all of 2013 was bad but 2014 has to be better. The first thing we are going to do is purchase some Smart Phones so we can coordinate all the dates and activities we have going on. Then we are going to coordinate our work schedules around the things we want to do, not the other way around. As a wise man once said; we work to live, not live to work.

We're looking to build on the great events we had in 2013 this year. Last year's trip to Winona was fantastic and we have ideas for another great fall run this year. We also may visit House on the Rock in the spring, another week-end trip that is currently in the planning stages. Of course we have our GMCCA show in June (no rain, please) and the CORSA convention in Washington State.

Cara has never been on the west coast so we are planning to attend, though we may fly and rent a car rather than drive the '69 out (not sure I want to replace another engine). Besides, if we fly out, we always have the option to buy a car out there and drive it back. It will also be interesting to see if the winning bidder of the red Lambrecht Corvair will have it at the convention.

As always, if anyone has an idea for a club event, please let us know. Also, though we can't hit every car show and cruise event scheduled during the summer, we are always looking for some new venues. Speaking of venues, does anyone have ideas for new venues at our drive-in meetings? Last year we tried Fish Tale Grill in New Prague and Cuzzy's in Chaska. We seem to concentrate on the west and south metro. There must be some places north or east that we can try. They don't have to be a traditional drive-in, especially in May or September when we don't know how cooperative the weather will be. Think about it and let us know at the January or February meeting.

In the meantime, stay warm and safe in our snowy winter wonderland. We'll see everyone in January at Latuff's and the MUM.

Stay tuned,

Lee Knauf

CMI President



CORVAIR MINNESOTA

December 10, 2013

Vice President Gary Nelson gaveled the meeting to order at 7:10 with 15 members in attendance, along with one guest, Nathan Rood. After the creed, we went around the room and everyone described the Corvairs they currently own.

Guest Nathan has a '62 Monza coupe.

November Minutes: Approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: We have \$2174 in our treasury currently.

New Business: Dan Quinn is the new CMI representative to GMCCA, replacing Chuck Johnson who became treasurer of GMCCA.

Since our Holiday dues Party occurs after Christmas, tonight we collected checks and presents for STEP, our charity of choice. Hugh Turnstead brought toys which everyone examined. . .and wanted to insert the batteries into. If you are ever in a gift drawing, hope that Hugh picks your name!

If you were not at the meeting, we will still gladly accept gifts and checks at the dues party!

Upcoming Events:

January 5: Holiday dues party at Latuff's, registration forms are in the November issue of Leeky Seel. All dinners will be \$20, will CMI picking up the balance. We have the entire restaurant for our event, so consider attending if you haven't in previous years .

January 14: Monthly meeting at the MUM. . .what else is there to do in January?

January 18: Breakfast with Dick Braemar at 9 a.m. in Buffalo at Bill Cook's church, he will have more information next month.

July 21-25, 2014: National CORSA Convention: Tacoma, Washington at the new LeMay Automobile Museum, only 9 months remains to complete your projects!

Treats:

November: Dan Quinn – Very Good

December: Tom Quinn – OUTSTANDING–home-made e'clairs!

February: Cliff Picht

Tech Session

Fran quizzed us with a recording of a phantom knock he and Gary were chasing, turned out to be a loose flywheel. . .but sounded differently than usual

Next was a video of the turn signals AND SIDE MARKER LIGHTS flashing on the freshly painted Rampside.

We adjourned at 9:35.

Respectfully submitted,

Chuck Johnson



2013 Index of Leaky SEEL Articles

January

How To Read A Micrometer, pt 1
Pat McMonigal, Obituary
How Ethanol Affects Collector Cars, pt 1
Uncle Scott Says, pt 3
2012 Index of Leaky SEEL Articles

February

CMI Holiday Dues Party
Uncle Scott Says, pt 4
CMI 2013 Tentative Schedule
Chain Hoist
How To Read A Micrometer, pt 2
How Ethanol Affects Collector Cars, pt 2

March

Denny Meyer, Obituary
How To Read A Micrometer, pt 3
CMI Roster
Harmonic Tech Session

April

Rampside Taillight Project
GMCCA Guidelines
FC Shocks

May

Rampside Bodywork
CMI Annual Pancake breakfast

June

Adopt A Highway, Spring
Corvair Greenbrier Ambulance
Wiring LED Rampside Taillights
New Pertronix
The Sprag Clutch

July

Problem Flywheel
Aluminum and Steel
GMCCA

August

2013 CORSA Convention
Minnetonka Drive In Meeting

September

Annual CMI Picnic
New London to New Brighton
Peppermint Twist Meeting

October

52 Year Old FC Tailgate Bumpers
Classics by the Lake
St. John's Family Fun Fest
Steering Wheel Repair
Summer Spectacular
Mustang/Barracuda/Corvair
Comparison (e-SEEL bonus)

November

Check Those Used Parts!
Day At The (Schwanke) Museum
CMI Fall Tour
Lambrecht Auction (e-SEEL bonus)

December

Side Marker/ Flashers on the FC
MUM Membership Meeting
Ypsilanti Automotive Museum
Willow Run Brochure (e-SEEL bonus)
Corvair Apparel Price list (e-SEEL bonus)



Fran dodges YET ANOTHER bullet!

A while Back Fran bought a new car that has Tire-Pressure-Monitors in each wheel....called TPMs. Many of you have done the same.....this note is for you all who have these TPMs on your car. Do not...repeat...DO NOT change out the plastic dust caps (that are on the end of the valve stem) with a fancy metal unit. The new valve stems are not the same as the old valve stems - - fitted with new materials that look very normal and benign but are a trap! Fran happened across a pack of four fancy dust caps one day, bought them, installed them....lived happily for a year or so. The onboard TPM display at times displayed a pound or two variation so he dutifully added air to the noted tire. He did notice but did nothing about it because he was not forewarned..... **as you are being forewarned...NOW!....** that the new shiny dust-cap turned off poorly, not like a plastic one would have. When the car was serviced the Technicians apparently read the dash display and OK'd the tire pressure, or they would have (should have) noticed the offending material and flagged or changed it.

Fast forward to a date when the offending dust-caps have been on for about one year.

Those bad boys don't come off!

After trying several removal methods- - up to and including vise-grips and flame - - he decided to head to the experts at Samaritan Tire in Minnetonka. That's when he found out this was a common problem and an expensive common problem. Usually the cap is frozen on to the valve stem and breaks the valve stem off when it is attacked – similar to what Fran was doing. When the stem is replaced the TPM is also replaced to the tune of \$75 a wheel. There is a possible cheaper fix that involves drilling out the broken stem and tapping it for a replacement unit, that screws into the existing valve stem - - for only \$40 per wheel.



Here's Frank Mazzuchella (from Samaritan Tire) showing us one of his dead ones. Also shown is a display with a breakdown of the problem, from his store in Minnetonka. [952.933.3363]

CMI 2014 Schedule

- January** 05 **Holiday/ Dues Party – Latuff’s**
14 Membership meeting – **MUM** – 7 p.m.
18 **Park Tavern and tour of Pavek Broadcasting Museum – Noon**
30 Board of Directors – Schmit Residence
- February** 11 Membership meeting – **MUM**– 7 p.m.
27 Board of Directors – **TBD**
- March** 08-16 Twin Cities Auto Show, Mps Auditorium (<http://www.tcautoshow.com/>)
11 Membership meeting – @ Twin Cities Auto Show – 2nd floor meeting room, 7 p.m.
27 Board of Directors – **TBD**
- April** 08 Membership meeting **MUM** – 7 p.m.
04-05 GSTA, Coliseum, State Fair Grounds (<http://www.gstarod-custom.com>)
24 Board of Directors – **TBD**
TBD Pancake breakfast – MUM or St John’s?
- May** 02-03 Inventor’s Congress Invention & Idea Show, Minneapolis Convention Center
(<http://www.minnesotainventorscongress.org/>)
04 Spring Extravaganza Car Show and Swap Meet, State Fairgrounds,
(www.gopherstatebuick.org)
06 Membership meeting – **TBD (Cuzzy’s?)**
First Fifty Auto Parts Sale & Swap Meet, State Fairgrounds
29 Board of Directors – **TBD**
- June** 01 10,000 Lakes Concours d’Elegance
08 GMCCA – State Fairgrounds
10 Membership meeting - **Wagners’** in Brooklyn Park, 6:30
20-22 Back to the 50’s, State Fairgrounds (www.msra.com)
26 Board of Directors – **TBD**
- July** 04 Fourth of July Parade, Delano – Post Parade Picnic Peppermint Twist
08 Membership meeting - Minnetonka Drive-in in Spring Park, 6:30
18-20 Car Craft Summer Nationals Car show, State Fairgrounds
(<http://www.familyevents.com/event/233>)
21-25 CORSA National Convention – Tacoma, WA
31 Board of Directors – **TBD**
25-27 Little Log House show, Hastings (<http://www.littleloghouseshow.com>)
25 Kolacky Days, Montgomery, MN (Classic car show 7/27)
(<http://www.montgomerymn.org/kdaycar.html>)



A brief interlude - - Minnesota, November, 2013

The other day I got an ad from Amazon - - when I bought something, I guess. It was an ad for a stay-over in a nice hotel – during the winter months- with serious discounts. I talked to my bride and she said, - - “Let’s”! So I clicked on it.

Yesterday we took our time and drove over to Stillwater. On the way we stopped in Oakdale at a movie complex featuring free popcorn on Tuesdays and it has a fast-food-type restaurant in the lobby. Turns out the movie I wanted to see was in 3D so the senior discount didn’t apply - - We saw ‘Gravity’ and liked it/them a lot! 3D has surely improved in the last few years.

I also programmed the Hotel (Inn) into my GPS, so as to NOT get lost. They’re building the new Bridge over the St Croix now so my GPS got a little testy as I drove where it thought was open fields...HA! I fooled it.

The traffic across that little “Lift” bridge in Stillwater is heavy (both AM and PM), so we had to poke along into and through town. The place we were headed for was just ten feet past the traffic so once we got into the other side of Stillwater we were fine. The Hotel is right on the river (I mean next to the river, really) and was built in the 1890’s to house the lumber barons who built Stillwater. Fascinating building...the tin ceiling in the lobby was surely 20 feet high making the check-in counter appear overwhelmed. All was well, they knew we were coming, gave us a key and welcomed us to dinner whenever we were ready (dining room opened at 5).

The room was fantastic! BIG is hardly the word for it as it was easily 25 x 30 feet (with a ceiling more than 10 feet) we poked around and saw the Jacuzzi in one corner...a Murphy bed in the other corner and opposite the Jacuzzi was a cozy – HOT – gas fireplace. I snapped a pic of the fireplace from way over by the Jacuzzi – take a look!

The fire went on with a flick of the switch and it really radiated the heat out into the room. Remember we were there in November, so the fireplace was really welcome! It was lovely and spacious and when I looked out the window we were right on top of their famous lift bridge. The pic you see is one I took in the morning with all the WI traffic coming across in the fog.



The setting was idyllic, comfortable, welcoming, warm, spacious and without a hint (something we often run into in our travels) without a hint of OLD smell. This place was/is pristine!

On to the dinner - - WOW! The menu would have scared me off except for the fact that it was included. Appetizers were big mushrooms filled with shrimp and cheese and perhaps a garlic sauce. Salad was a Caesar for my Mary and I had a bowl of Mulligan stew - - great! Mary then had a plate of shrimp, Lobster and Scallops that was huge - - could not finish it, so we brought the leftovers home for the next day. I managed to finish my dinner, just barely. After dinner we retired to our room: which was huge and comfortable and warm with a view...WOW!

Some idiot forgot to check the alarm clock so it went off in my

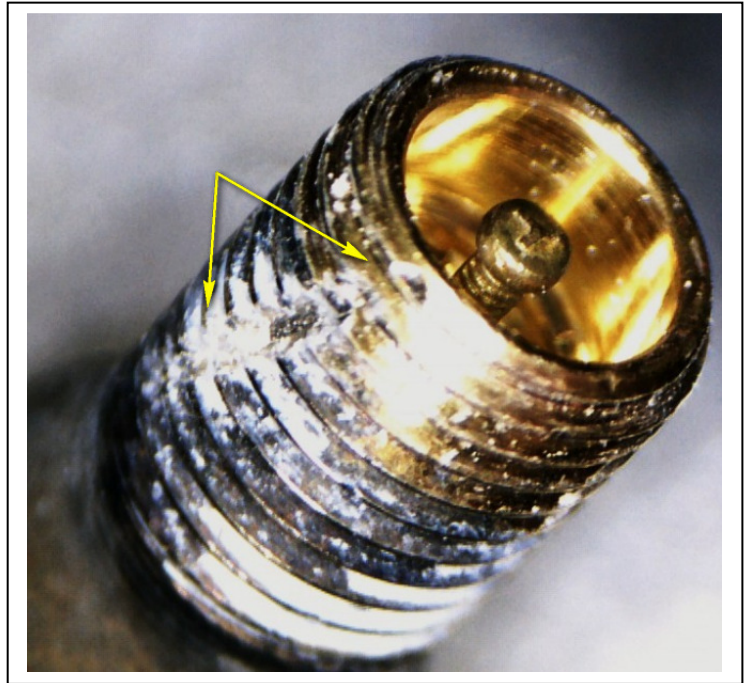
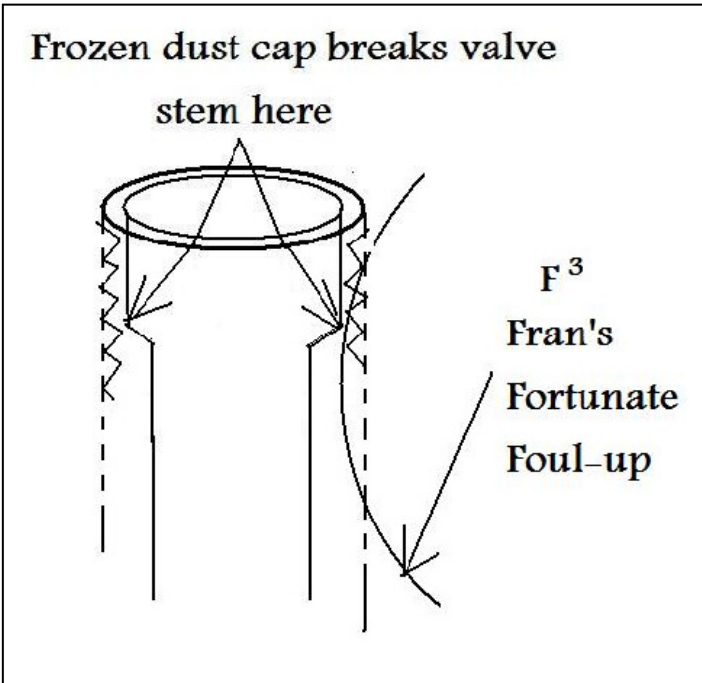
ear at 0300! The bed was so nice that I got back in with ease. Later on Mary asked when that alarm went off and when I told her she said she thought she had been dreaming. We slept late and when we came down for breakfast we were almost alone in the entire dining room. Remember, the winter season. Again the food was great – did I say the breakfast was included in the Amazon deal...and we ordered from the menu – exactly NOT like Super 8!!

All in all the only thing we had to pay for was tipping the dining room wait persons (of course, Amazon did not include the bar). Including the movie, the previous afternoon, we came in under 200\$ and had a wonderful time in a wonderful place.

If you get a deal offered to you by Amazon, as we did for the WaterStreet Inn, give us a call and we’ll tell you all about it – again!

Fran & Mary Schmit

Now here's the first bullet that Fran dodged. He was talking to Gary Nelson about his conundrum and Gary suggested cutting the bad boy loose from the stem using a Dremel wheel.....Great idea! Fran started cutting. These guys were MARRIED, the cap and the stem.....till death do us part! Cutting the cap full length and across the top was barely enough to allow Fran to break the offender loose from the stem, which worked on three of them - - Fran was counting \$75 a pop, as he kept dodging. The fourth one didn't cut as well and wouldn't break loose - and he didn't want to break off the end of that valve stem - - see drawing showing the thin wall and thick wall of the valve stem construction. He cut the bad-cap more than he wanted to before it did let loose. That's when he saw he had cut too deep into the side of the valve stem.....RATS!!! See photo of valve stem with a deep cut along its length, starting at the first thread and going all the way back to about number 8 - - the dark spot in the middle didn't look good!



He could see there were no threads left in the bottom of that cut. Turns out he dodged yet another bullet in that the thick wall of the valve stem - thick to make room for the threads of the Schrader valve that goes inside of a valve stem - was just thick enough for the cutting wheel to NOT penetrate the sidewall of the valve stem. In the sketch of the valve stem's breakability there's a "cut line" approximating this "fortunate failure".

Cars with TPMs should be carefully modified, if at all, according to the above precautionary note. Anti-sieze compound might be OK, or just plain grease, but if you know you're in a danger zone - - THINK!!!

Fran

Received for S.T.E.P. from the December membership meeting:

Cash/checks: \$100; Necklace; Doll (Kendra); Remote control car (ZL1 Camaro); Remote control car (Boss 302 Mustang); 2 Tote bag set; 3 card games; 10 craft sets; Pizza cutter; 2 stuffed animals; 2 colored pencils; Mini Basketball hoop; Boggle; Dinosaur book; Slip-n-slide; Wonder board; Magna doodle; Hop Ball; Magnetic letters; Noah's Ark craft kit.

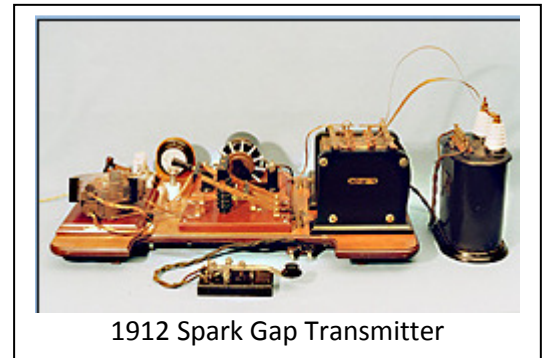
Additional donations will gladly be accepted at the Holiday/ Dues party. THANKS!



3517 Raleigh Avenue, St. Louis Park, Minnesota 55416
952/926-8198

The Pavek Museum of Broadcasting houses one of the world's finest collections of antique radio, television, and broadcast equipment. The Museum has gained international recognition for its continuing efforts in preserving and documenting the history of an industry that has made monumental changes in the fabric of modern life.

The foundation of the Museum's programming is the Joseph R. Pavek Collection containing hundreds of radio receivers, transmitters, and televisions from the first half of the Twentieth Century. Highlights include a working 1912 rotary spark-gap transmitter, crystal radios of the early Twenties, a chronologically ordered collection of vacuum tubes (including several original De Forest Audions), and one of the most extensive treasuries of radio literature ever assembled.



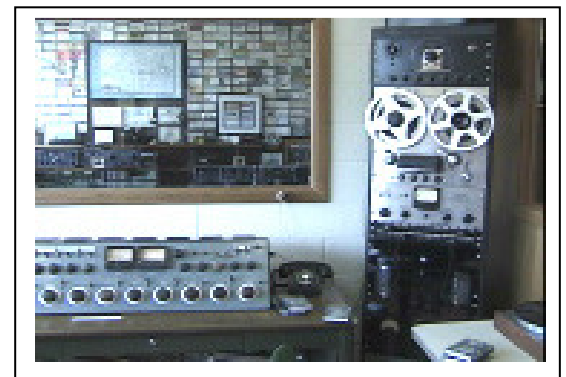
1912 Spark Gap Transmitter



Jack Mullin Collection

Other attractions include the Charles Bradley Collection, representing more than thirty radio companies from the Twin Cities area, and the Jack Mullin Collection, documenting one hundred twenty-five years of audio recording technology. From the earliest days of the phonograph to talking pictures to the revolution of magnetic recording, the Mullin Collection preserves the entertainment technology that has forged the cultural achievements of the modern era.

We are dedicated to the preservation of these collections and the creation of new opportunities for learning and discovery. Children can actually create their own radio broadcasts in an authentic 1960s era studio or participate in Saturday morning basic electricity classes. Amateur operators can make world-wide contacts from our state-of-the-art Ham Shack, and people of all ages can enjoy a variety of classic programs and interviews with local broadcast pioneers.



The Museum is located at 3517 Raleigh Avenue in Saint Louis Park, just east of Highway 100, off the West 36th Street exit. They are open four days a week, offering a self-guided audio tour of our exhibits.

<http://www.museumofbroadcasting.org/index.html>

Join us for a tour of the Pavek Museum right after a hearty noon lunch at the Park Tavern on Saturday, January 18th (museum admission is \$7).

ORDER YOUR CORVAIR APPAREL NOW !!

Our current supplier for jackets, polos, denim shirts, sweatshirts, T-shirts, caps, visors, etc. is Visions Embroidery of Buffalo. Not only do we have really nice quality clothing to choose from, but the prices are lower than previous years. We usually have Large and XL in stock, but we can order whatever you want.

T-SHIRTS : Fruit of the Loom Lofteez heavy cotton (size S - XXL)	
Colors : black, white, navy, red, gray	\$15.00
SILKSCREENED T-SHIRTS : (size S - XXL)	
Colors : slate blue, white	\$15.00
NOVELTY T-SHIRTS : (size S-XXL)	\$15.00
BLUE DENIM SHIRTS (SHORT or LONG SLEEVE) (size S - XXL)	\$25.00
SWEATSHIRTS : Fruit of the Loom 90oz heavy fleece (size S - XXL)	\$20.00
Colors : black, gray, navy, red	
POLOS : L. A. Loving Egyptian cotton (size S - XXL)	\$25.00
Colors : black, white, navy, red	
JACKETS (unlined) : Port Authority Classic Poplin (size S - XXL)	\$40.00
Colors : black w/tan	
JACKETS (lined) : L. A. Loving Tahoe nylon (size S - XXL)	\$50.00
Colors : black w/gray fleece lining	
CAPS : Low Profile, velcro adjustable	\$10.00
Colors : black, white, navy, red, slate blue	
VISORS : Low Profile, velcro adjustable	\$10.00
Colors : black, tan	
CORVAIR 50th ANNIVERSARY LICENSE PLATE	\$20.00
CMI MAGNETIC DOOR SIGNS (per pair)	\$20.00

- ** All clothing items are priced with CORVAIR MINNESOTA logo on left crest
- ** For sizes 3X or larger, add \$5.00
- ** If you want your first name embroidered, add \$5.00
- ** If you want the oval CORVAIR MINNESOTA logo embroidered on the back of any shirt or jacket, add \$25.00
- ** If you want to place an order, call BILL COOK at 612-940-9179

WEBSITE: <http://www.corvairminnesota.com/>

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This photo dates from the national expo in Lausanne Switzerland in 1964. As a kid of 8 years I visited the exposition with my family. About 40 Corvair pedal cars were sponsored by Nestle. It was an education park to teach the children traffic rules, therefore the uniformed policemen (not soldiers). The last time I drove such a Corvair pedal car was in 1995 (a club member has restored one).

Urs Tanner, Former President, Swiss Corvair Club



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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TEMP – RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Have a Happy and Safe Holiday Season!