

April 2014

A Publication of the Central Florida Corvair Club,
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Volume 2; Issue 4



Titus Stewart stretches the legs of his newly acquired 1963 Fitch Sprint convertible during the SpringFest Autocross at Helen, GA.

Calendar of Events

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| May 17 | Mid Month at the Club Garage. 9:00 AM till the work is done. |
| May 20 | Monthly Meeting - Golden Corral 11731 East Colonial Dr. (near Alafaya Trl.) |
| June 14 | CFC Mid-month at deLeon Springs, 8:30am for breakfast. |
| July 21 - 25 | CORSA International Convention, Tacoma, WA |
| Oct. 31 - Nov. 2 | Corvair Affair. (Fairfield will be considered for stay overs) |

The Pres. Says

by Eddie Meadows

Thanks to so many of you that braved the storm last Tuesday and brought your car to Dave Maus for the picture. I got permission to have the cars parked in the front parking area. The salesmen there seemed to be impressed with the turnout and quality of the cars. There were several customers that also enjoyed looking at the cars as they visited the dealership. We may do this again in the fall and use a camera that can pan and get all the cars and people.

We had 13 CFC Club members that went to Helen, GA, to attend Springfest last weekend (George/DeLinda, Roy/Nicole, Eddie/Ardis, Titus/Allison/Catherine/Victoria, Gene, Rich/Pat). When they had the roll call of clubs, CFC was the most enthusiastic with our response (we made the most noise). It was a little cool Friday with some rain in the afternoon/evening; however, it was a very pretty day Saturday. Saw a lot of good old Corvairs friends and had a great time getting caught up. I think they said they had over 130 registrations which translated to over 200+ people. Again the food was great both days. The autocross was a very tight course that had to be driven with smoothness (I did not do that very well). There were 70 cars in either the car display or concourse. I took the Dixie T, Titus brought his newly acquired Fitch Sprint, and Gene had his race car. All of us brought home trophies. I also sold more "fleas" than I expected. All in all, it was a great weekend and I encourage more of you to attend next year. Many of Georgia club members have faithfully attended our Corvair Affair, so they appreciated it when we support Springfest.

George is looking into the suitability of the Golden Coral down on Rt 50 (Colonial Drive) for our next meeting. Perkins is not willing to put us in the separate room because of a group that meets there every Tuesday evening. So we will see if can go somewhere else that can be more private. I will send out a separate e-mail with details on date, address,

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directions before our May monthly meeting. Later dudes.

(Editor's Note: May's monthly meeting will be at the Golden Corral, 11731 E. Colonial Drive, Orlando. For those coming from the north, it would probably be wise to exit the 417 on University Blvd, east to Alafaya Trail, south on Alafaya to Colonial Drive. Make a right on Colonial and Golden Corral will be on the right, maybe 150 ft from the intersection.)

Central Florida Corvair Meeting Minutes April 15, 2014

1. Call To Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:37pm by Eddie Meadows. Meeting held at David Maus Chevrolet in Sanford, Florida. Dinner was catered by Angelina's, (Lasagna, ziti, meatballs, garlic bread, and salad). Price per person was \$8.00. 24 people attended.

2. Reading of last Month's Minutes: The readings of last month's minutes were withheld due to Eddie stating they were already sent to everyone. The minutes were accepted and approved.

3. Treasurer's Report: Rosemary read the treasurer's report, it was accepted and approved.

4. Recognition of new members and guests: Bob and Laura Bentz have returned to the states and now are back to the club. Rick and Sherry Beltrami also were there.

5. Old Business:

Nature Coast Corvair Club Car and Truck Show – They sent out “Thank You” letters to those who attended their show. Eddie mentioned that we should do the same for those who attend our Corvair Affair.

CFC Club Spring Rally – Only 3 people had e-mailed Eddie that they would attend so he postponed it. He asked if they still wanted to schedule rallies in the future. Several people indicated they would, so it will be re-scheduled for either Sept or Oct

CFC Corvair Affair - Eddie shared that Sarah had the contract to reserve the FCTC track for Nov 1st. Eddie also contacted the mall and we have the Community Room reserved for Oct. 31st, and Nov. 1st. Sarah is checking on the price for rooms at Fairfield Inn (lady there asked her to wait till after Easter). DeLinda and Louise will come up with some suggestions for door prizes that will be very nice (hand made items). Would like everyone to think of some things that they can do to get donations for commercial items to use door prizes. Cecil also suggested that each member consider spending around \$20-25 on car related items that can be used for door prizes.

“My First Corvair” story - Eddie would like everyone to write a short story on their 1st Corvair;

how they got it, what was it, how long did they own it, etc. The first one of these was in the March *Temp Press* by Gene Barr. Eddie wants to collect them all and make a CFC club Booklet. He volunteered to write it if they will call him and just tell him your story (he has a digital recorder).

Problem with noise at Perkins – This was discussed with no solution evident. George mentioned that there is a new Golden Corral on Rt. 50 that has an area we could use for our meetings. George will follow-up with them to see if the room is available on the 3rd Tuesday for our May meeting.

6. New Business:

Leesburg Daily Article - Max sent an article about a work-shop in Leesburg where they turn Corvair engines into airplane motors. This lead to discussion about whether we should sell them our 110 engines. Most agreed that we need to keep what we've got.

CFC Mid Months:

- (1) There will be a Mid-Month work-shop at the Corvair Garage on May 17th. Please let Eddie or Norm know if there is something in particular you want addressed.
- (2) There will be an outing to DeLeon Springs on Saturday, June 14th. Best to come early because they close the park after a certain amount of people come in. They are open from 8am to 5pm. Eddie will call and make reservations for 8:30 for breakfast.
- (3) Woody has invited the club to his place in Lake City above Gainesville. This may need to be a 2or 3 day affair where we spend the night. We could caravan from somewhere in Central Florida, visit, spend the night, and then return home the following day.

Bob Shearer - Cecil mentioned that Bob Shearer had suffered a stroke and will no longer be providing tours.

Cars and Coffee in Ocoee - Gary Meredith has invited CFC to attend the Cars and Coffee in Ocoee on the 3rd Saturday of the month from 8 – 10am. House Blend Café at 10730 W. Colonial Drive, Ocoee, Florida, 34761; his Corvair will be there. Eddie worked on his car last week, he had some carb problems and a vacuum leak problems.

Roy said that because of The Temp Press photo, other clubs are posting their clubs now on the Web.

Norm mentioned that the Shop Day Mid-Month is the same day same as the Deland Day - a car

cruise in. You could go to it after we finish at the garage.

Eddie had asked Dan if we should join with some of the local Miata clubs for the auto-crosses. We only had 14 people show up (9 cars). Do we want to join with Dan's group and other like the Daytona club for shows and events? The Autocross cost us \$35.00 pr/hr for the track. This rate could be shared with others. Do we want to make this a money making event or just for our group? Norm said there is a need to make some money to help pay for the track. It was also stated that we would need to develop some written agreements with these clubs to kind of set some ground rules. More on this later.

7. Shows and Events:

- 16-18 May – Tidewater Corvair Virginia VairFair, VA Beach, VA
- 17 May – CFC Mid-month – Shop at the CFC Garage, 9:00AM till ?
- 20 May – CFC Monthly Meeting at Golden Coral, Rt-50, 6:00
- 14 June – CFC Mid-month - De Leon Springs, 8:30AM for breakfast.
- Oct. 31 - Nov. 1 & 2 – Corvair Affair. (Fairfield Inn will be considered for host hotel).

8.Meeting Adjourned: Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.

The 50/50 was won by Linda Wright.

My First Corvair

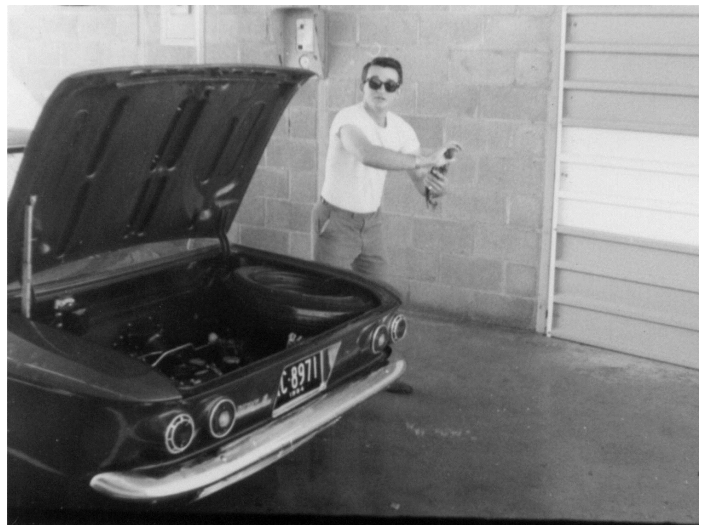
by Ken (Buddy) Mangold

As a teenager and young adult I had had a variety of cars. My first was a 1940 Chevrolet Sedan, which was the same age as I was at the time. I paid \$40 for it, complete with shaved wide white wall tires. Each morning I would always check the gas and fill it with oil, since it had a rear main oil seal leak. After a year of constant repairs I sold it for a 1950 Mercury 2 door coupe. That was a cool car which I enjoyed during my first year of college. Then came a 1955 Chevrolet hardtop convertible which was a beautiful two tone red and white car, but I could not keep a transmission in it. So I moved on to a 1956 Chevrolet 4 door sedan which was two tone green.

This was a grocery getter, but a very good and reliable car. I kept this car for a couple of years and then began wishing for a sportier model.



That is where the Corvair story begins. I had seen Corvairs on the road and they looked like a small sporty and economical car. I was driving by a used car lot and saw a pretty little Maroon job, with a tan interior. I pulled in and took it for a ride. It had a three speed manual transmission and was pretty peppy. I really liked the car so I traded in the '56 Chevy for it. It made many trips back and forth between home and college.



My college roommate had a 1963 Volkswagen,

which he thought was pretty fast and he challenged me to a drag race. So off we went to a vacant road and lined the cars up for a race. Off we charged, shifting through the gears. The Corvair easily left the Volkswagen in the dust, so my friend asked for a re-run, this time pulling two sparkplug wires off so the Corvair would have the same number of cylinders as the VW. I know...I know, it sounds stupid, but we were college kids. The Corvair still out ran the VW. Well what do'ya know about that! He did not challenge me to any more racing, until years later, when I had a 1965 4 speed Mustang and he had a 1965 Corsair Spyder. But that's another story.

I spun out in the Corvair two times; one time coming home late at night on damp pavement. I was on an exit ramp going a little faster than I should, when the car instantly swapped ends. I went from driving forward to driving backward in the blink of an eye. I was able to maintain control of the car and get it turned back around, but my heart was really racing.

Sometime later I was traveling to my Air Force Reserve training weekend early in the morning and the streets were wet. I was about an eighth of a mile from a stop light with very light traffic. The light turned red and I began trying to stop. Each time I applied the brakes the car would yaw from one side to the other. I realized I was not going to be able to stop by the time I reached the intersection so I began honking the horn. Thank goodness the cars in the intersection saw my predicament and remained stationary. I slide through the intersection, up into a gas station and the car bounced off the gas pump island, finally coming to a stop. It was at that time that I decided that my loyalty to Corvairs had come to an end.

It was then that I went to a local Ford dealership and purchased one of the hottest selling cars of all time. It was a 1965 Ford Mustang 4 speed convertible, midnight blue, with a black top. That was a really sweet car, which I kept for five years.

Have you all ever wished that you had a big warehouse that you could keep all the cars of your past. I

would have kept them all,..... except for the 1969 Toyota Corona. I really did not like that car.

Show Coverage - Springfest, Helen, GA

By George Jones

We started our trek to Springfest earlier than most CFC members. We were pulling our camper and left Wednesday morning with the intention of making it a leisurely trip in two days. The warm weather was rapidly left behind, but the sunshine kept our hopes high for a dry show.

We set up at our camp site on Thursday in the early afternoon and proceeded to the town of Helen, an interesting little tourist town remodeled in the mid 1900s to resemble an Alpine village. We soon ran into Gene Barr and Eddie and Ardis and a number of other CFC members, and proceeded to the Western Sizzlin steak house for a hearty dinner in preparation for the show the next day.

The next morning, I proceeded to the vendor area while DeLinda socialized at the Festhouse. When the Autocross started, I wandered through the pits and talked with some of the owners. I believe I managed to snap at least one shot of each CFC car (with the exception of Eddie's Dixie T) on the track. The rain held off until after the autocross, but temperatures barely reached the 50s. Friday night, the host clubs provide an excellent dinner for participants, but the Festhouse was as cold as the outside air.

Saturday morning the rain finally let up in time for the car show. There were plenty of fine looking cars on display and I've posted all of my photos on the club's Facebook site, as well as a few on the next page.

At the awards dinner I was happy to hear a number of your members recognized for their participation in the events of that and the previous day.

Those members are:

Titus Stewart - Bronze Award in Concourse for their newly acquired Fitch Sprint convertible

Ed Meadows - 3rd place in Peoples Choice, Specialty Class

Victoria Stewart - Most Improved, Autocross

Catherine Stewart - 3rd Place, Autocross, La-

dies Class

Ed Meadows - 2nd Place, Autocross, Specialty Class

Titus Stewart - 5th Place, Autocross, Early Model

Gene Barr - 3rd Place, Autocross, Early Model

The return trip, for us, was as uneventful as the trip up. If you haven't made this show in the past, you may want to put it on your list.



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Hopes & Prayers go out to Linda Wright for a speedy recovery!

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