

LEEKY



President's Page

It's been a fun month with lots of activities. In early April, I visited my cousins in Las Vegas and California and was fortunate to be able to visit the Petersen Automotive Museum in Los Angeles and wow, what a great place! They had just remodeled the entire museum and had three floors of car displays. There were two prototype cars there and one of them you could tell it influenced the design of the Corvair, it was just beautiful! Although, nothing could beat the Bugatti on the main floor. For another \$25, you could get a guided tour of the vault, the other 100 cars being stored in the basement. Then afterward, you have to stop at Langer's Deli in business since 1947 and their food is to die for! I happened to mention to my cousin if there were any vintage gas stations in the area. So happens there was! They were just wrapping up restoration on a old Richfield gas station from the early twenties. Just a few miles away and the it was with the blue and yellow paint scheme and restored twin visible gas pumps out front. it will soon be open for tours in the near future in Rancho Cucamonga, CA.

On April 12, we had 9 CMI members tour the Smith Foundry which has been in operation since 1923. The tour was very interesting and we learned a lot about their operation. We followed up the tour with a great dinner at The Rail Station on Minnehaha Avenue. Many thanks to owner Neil Ahlstrom and special thanks to Gary Nelson for arranging this great tour.



SEEL

CORVAIR MINNESOTA NEWSLETTER

May 2016

On April 16, we had 5 CMI members tour Collision Center in Golden Valley. We found they do high quality in their large shop and process an average of 40 cars a week and will work on classic cars. We then had a PDR (Paintless Dent Repair) demonstration by Juergen Holzer who is "The Original Dentman". At age 16, his mother sent him to Germany to apprentice at Mercedes Benz and later BMW and also taught himself paintless dent repair. He has taught many people PDR and if you are interested in making an appointment with the expert, contact him at www.juergensdentkraft.net or rholzer@frontier.net. He works out of Collision Center or will come to your house. Many thanks to Terry and Becky Geffre for all the goodies and treats they had for us and also for the great hospitality.

Just a reminder that I am running for Central Division Director for CORSA and would appreciate your support and your vote by June 1. This year, CORSA members can vote online on the CORSA website corvair.org. It is very quick and easy.

I will look forward to seeing everyone at Gabe's in the Park on Saturday April 30 for breakfast followed by a visit to the Como Conservatory and please drive your Corvair.

Wrench, Ride, Repeat!

Jack Bacon



CORVAIR MINNESOTA

Annual Auto Show Edition

April 12, 2016

President Jack Bacon called the meeting to order at 7:00 at the MUM in Plymouth. After the creed, 21 members and three guests introduced themselves and described their current Corvairs as we went around the group.

Three new members were present: Dave & John Bowers, husband and son of Heidi; Brian Dahlmeier who drove his '65 180 HP Corsa convertible. The other Corvair in the parking lot was Dick Mickelson's '65 Monza Sport Sedan with 27,000 miles which he just purchased in Kansas; it's always a treat to see such an original 50 year old car.

April Minutes: Approved as published.

Treasurer's Report:

March balance	\$2454	
Income		\$100
Expenses		<u>(160)</u>
Current Balance:	<u>\$2394</u>	
Membership:	71	

OLD BUSINESS:

April 12, 2016: Today twelve of us toured the Smith Foundry on 28th St. East in Minneapolis. This foundry is about 100 years old and is just 1 of 4 remaining in Minneapolis, where there was once 44 in operation. We adjourned to the Rail Station on Minnehaha for an early supper.

NEW BUSINESS:

Upcoming Activities:

April 16, 2016: Collision Center Tour on Florida Ave S in Golden Valley at 10 a.m.

April 30, 2016: Gabe's for breakfast! Opens at 9, we are meeting at 10 a.m. Remember to drive your Corvair! Potential sights after include Como Conservatory or the History Museum (Suburbia Exhibit).

May 10, 2016: Membership meeting at Crooked Pint Ale House in Chaska.

May 7: Adopt A Highway: 8 a.m. breakfast at Dobo's as usual, work begins at 9. Rain date is May 14.

May 21: Eau Claire Corvair & Parts Tour. Details in the works.

June 5, 2016: GMCCA Car Show & Swap Meet at the MN State Fairgrounds. SPREAD THE WORD! Bring your registration to any CMI event to save postage. **Admission Gate Sign-ups are Open!!**

June 14, 2016: CMI Membership Meeting

July 4, 2016: Bill Cook is looking for input on participating in the Delano parade, the Edina parade, something else, or nothing. The Delano parade is favored, 7 people with cars indicated they plan to attend so far.

June 22, 2016: Million Dollar Quartet and Victoria Car Show. Try something different! This is a re-creation of the only occasion when **Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis, Elvis Presley, and Carl Perkins** performed together! CMI will attend the matinee performance and then travel to participate in the Victoria Car Show. Excellent opportunity for significant others to get their check mark for attending a car show with you each year! Venue and food are excellent!

Cost of the Million Dollar Quartet is \$29 per person, less if we have 10 people. Contact Fran or Chuck for tickets.

July 12 – 16, 2016: Corsa Convention in Springfield, IL—3 months to complete your corvair projects! 6 members have signed up to attend.

July 22: North St. Paul Weekly Car Show: Tom Quinn confirmed this date. Plan to arrive by 5 if you can, this was a fun event last year!

August 9: CMI Membership Meeting.

NEW ULM CAR SHOW DATES: May 12, June 9, July 14, August 11, and September 8. Cara will always welcome Corvairs!

NOTE: Anoka Car Show will be EVERY Saturday this summer.

Treats: Heidi Bowers and Ray Alexander. . .THANK YOU!

Technical Session:

Fran continued his fuel pump update discussion. . .he's on the cusp of a breakthrough! Gary filled us in on his projects next.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50.

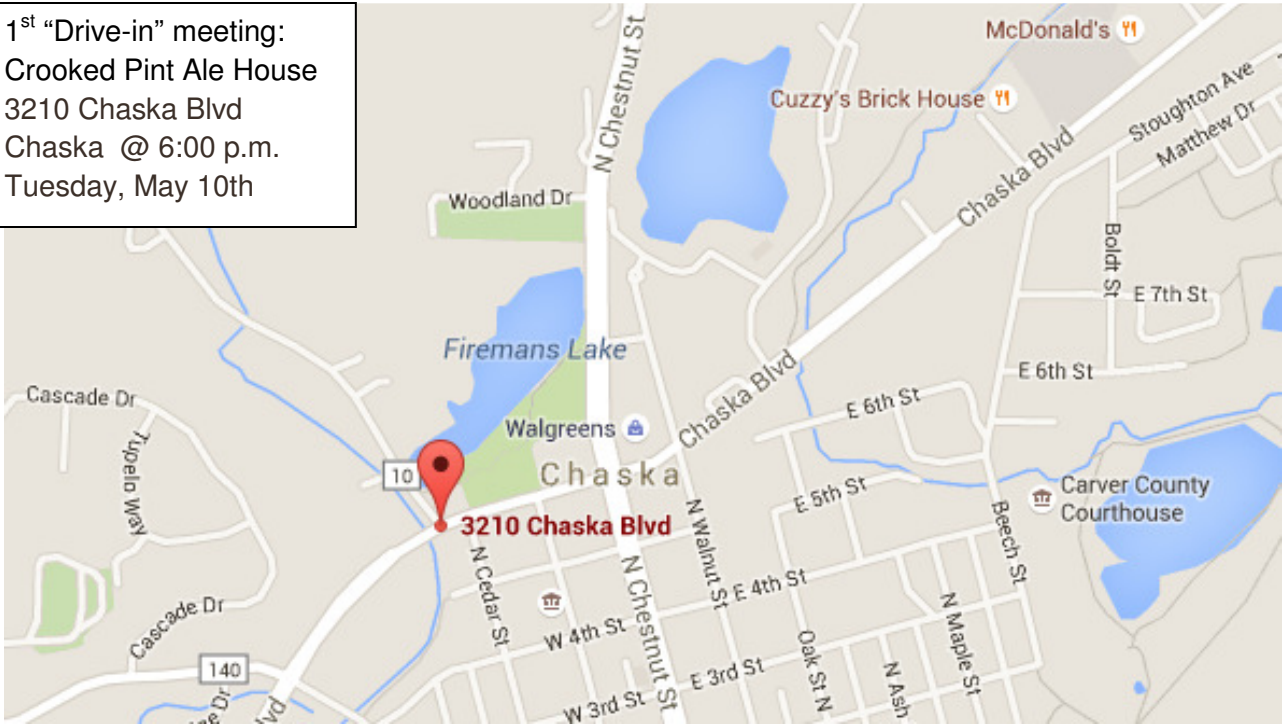
Respectfully submitted,

Chuck Johnson



CMI 2016 Schedule/ Upcoming Events

1st "Drive-in" meeting:
 Crooked Pint Ale House
 3210 Chaska Blvd
 Chaska @ 6:00 p.m.
 Tuesday, May 10th



Located in the Chaska Curling and Event Center (at the park formerly known as Fireman's Park)

Membership meetings are on the 2nd Tuesday of each month (unless otherwise announced)
Boards of Directors' meetings are on the last Thursday of each month (unless otherwise announced)

- May**
- Minnesota Inventor's Congress Invention & Idea Show – ***has ceased to operate:***
http://www.twincities.com/localnews/ci_28932033/after-58-years-minnesota-inventors-congress-calling-it
 - 01 Spring Extravaganza Car Show and Swap Meet, State Fairgrounds,
 (www.gopherstatebuick.org)
 - 07 **Adopt A Highway**, Clean-up on Highway 55, meet @ Dobos @ 8; rain date: May 14
 - Model Railroad & Hobby Sale, State Fairgrounds, 9-3:00 (www.tcmrm.org)
 - 10 **Membership meeting** (Crooked Pint Ale House, Chaska)
 - 21 **Road Trip to Eau Claire** to Colburn's Downtown Auto
 - 26 Directors' meeting

- June**
- 05 **GMCCA – State Fairgrounds**
 - 05 10,000 Lakes Concours d'Elegance, Excelsior (<http://10000lakesconcours.com/>)
 - 14 Membership meeting (TBD)
 - 17-19 Back to the 50's, State Fairgrounds (www.msra.com)
 - 22 **Old Log Theater/ Victoria Car show** – see eSEEL Xtra
 - 30 Directors' meeting

- July**
- 04 **Fourth of July Parade, Delano** – Post Parade Picnic @ the park
 - 07-09 Iola Old Car Show and Swap Meet (Car club day – Sunday)
 - 12 Membership meeting (TBD)
 - 12-16 **CORSA convention, Springfield, IL**
<https://www.corvair.org/2016convention/>



We went on a Tour in Minneapolis.

It was a Tour of a Foundry – where they make cast iron parts...to order, for all of our famous local companies. Right in the heart of the Big Town.



We watched as they mixed the raw ingredients, much as a baker mixes the correct amounts of different foodstuff, these guys were using a huge magnet to pick up a ton of this kind of iron and a ton of some other kind...then dropping these massive loads into a big melting pot. Probably called a furnace.

When they have the right mixture for their kind of

iron they throw in a handful of Magnesium! Which goes POOF... and all the iron is changed into a different kind of iron – which is what the customer has ordered. Ductile Iron I



think is what it is called and the iron in the pot was just Cast iron till they added the handful of Mg. Once they have the pot all bubbly it needs to be poured into a mobile bucket for carrying over to where the molds are waiting. This was a lot of fun for us to watch – from a distance, for sure – as each little sparkle of iron that jumped during the pour was like fireworks - - and there was a guy right there steering the pot to catch the HOT stuff with his bucket.

After the mobile pot was taken to the casting room we walked right by where the pour had been done and on the wall was this finely spattered fluffy looking stuff that was solid iron.



34th Annual General Motors Car Clubs Association
**ALL GM CAR / TRUCK
 SHOW AND SWAP MEET**

Live DJ playing music
 Food vendors on site!
 Dash plaques to first 500 show vehicles!

SUNDAY, JUNE 5, 2016 • 9 AM - 3 PM
MINNESOTA STATE FAIRGROUNDS - MACHINERY HILL

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

EVENT INFORMATION
www.gmcca.com
www.facebook.com/GMCCAssociation

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

PARTICIPANT AWARDS FOR

**BUICK • CADILLAC • CHEVROLET • CORVAIR • CORVETTE • CAMARO • CHEVELLE • NOVA
 OLDSMOBILE • PONTIAC • SATURN /OTHER GM • CHEVROLET/GMC TRUCKS**

Show Vehicles: Gates open at 7am - Enter at intersection of Larpenteur Ave & Underwood.
For Sale Vehicles: Gates open at 7am - Enter at intersection of Larpenteur Ave & Underwood.
 Pre-register for guaranteed space (until 10AM) & reduced entry fee.
Swappers: Gates open at 6am - Enter at Snelling Avenue Main Gate - All Makes of auto parts are welcome!

 Please print legibly or use address label **REGISTRATION FORM**

Name _____
 Street _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone () _____
 Car Club Affiliations (if any) _____

GM SHOW VEHICLE
 Make _____ Year _____
 Model _____
 Preregister before May 15th - **\$10** per vehicle
 Register after May 15th - **\$15** per vehicle
 Includes Car, driver & one passenger per admission.

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 VEHICLES (All Makes)
 \$15 per vehicle preregistered before 5/15
 \$20 per vehicle after 5/15
NO 'For Sale' signs allowed in the show area
**Make checks payable to and send
 pre-registration form to: GMCCA
 9632 Wyoming Terrace
 Bloomington, MN 55438**

Corvair Minnesota Adopt A Highway

Some years back Corvair Minnesota adopted a 2 mile stretch of Highway 55 in Loretto, from the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

In exchange for a pair of signs marking the section of highway, CMI agreed to clean that section two times a year – once in the Spring and once in the Fall.

The next clean up date is scheduled for Saturday, May 7th. We will meet at Dobo's, which is just prior to our stretch of highway, for a hearty breakfast. We will then break into teams and split the area into four 1 mile sections (our section is a total of 2 miles long). Three to four people per team seems to work the best (12 – 16 people in all).

After cleaning debris (trash bags, safety vests and extended grabbers are provided) we meet once again at Dobo's for a piece of fresh pie and coffee, courtesy of CMI.

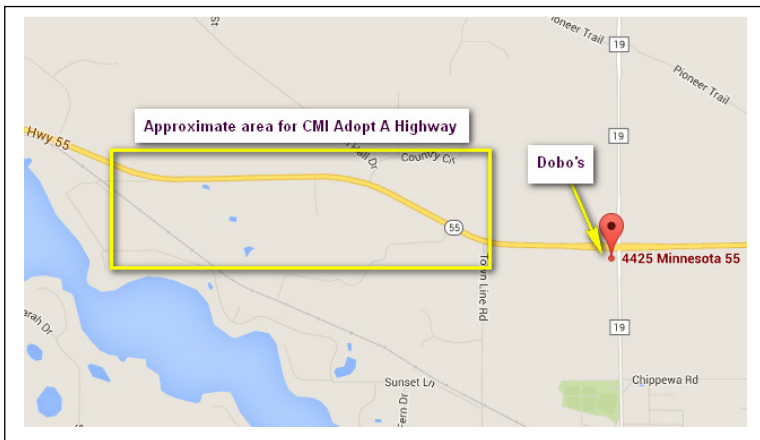
This event is a great way to get to know your fellow Corvair enthusiasts a bit better while performing a public service. Please consider signing up when we ask for volunteers!



Contact Cliff Picht:

cap_minn@yahoo.com

Thanks!



The guys who are making the sand casting for molding the parts are working in the same shop just a few yards away and have to be ready with the molds when the pot is hot. It was hard to photograph the sand casting as everything is pure black and not even shiny black but pure black sand. Yes, Sand, as in a sand box but this sand has had a few things added to the mix. The black stuff added to the sand makes it 'sticky', but still porous, as the iron is very hot when it is poured in and there is a lot of steam/smoke that has to get out through the sand. The stickiness added to the sand allows the pounding of the mold machine to make it hold together for the few seconds of the POUR. It was a sight to see, but hard to photograph/show here.



After the iron is poured into the mold and cooled the entire package was thrown into a tumbler. This knocked

off the sand and also a lot of the run-over iron. When it came out of the tumbler it was still too hot to handle but there was a guy there with a hammer knocking off big chunks and using some tongs to throw them into a pile waiting to be re-melted on another day. It was nice and warm in the Foundry that day, but I don't think it would be much fun working there in the summer.



When the pouring is over there is still hot stuff in the pot, so it is molded into big blocks to be saved for another melt, whenever that particular mix is ordered. We were standing about ten feet from those very hot molten chunks of iron. Also a nice job on a wintery day.

At the back of the shop were pallets of parts waiting for shipment to those folks who



had ordered castings from the Smith Foundry.

After the Tour we went to a bar/grill that featured grilled cheese and beer. It was a good day to visit Minneapolis, ending with the Tuesday meeting at the MUM. Fran

Rampside STRENGTH members:

Because I had to cut open the side of my Rampside – due to perpetual rust along the bottom edge – I was able to “see” inside and figure out what it was that made that Ramp so strong.

First thing we did (son Peter was here) was to rip a hole in the side panel and bend it up to peek inside. A first time ever experience for me. Then we had to figure out how to



get those 50 year old bolts to let loose, without a



catastrophic outcome. We got all the bolts out, cleanly, that were screwed into the ramp. First we cut off the end of the bolt that was outside of the nut – so we wouldn't have to screw all that bad thread through the nut – then the old “smoke wrench” was applied to ‘cherry’ up the nuts. The nuts are welded to the ramp so they will remain while the heating releases the trapped in bolt.



I just happened to have a clutch head tip to engage those heads...don't remember where I got it – probably from Clarks. With the bolts out I could take a look inside the Ramp and see the three powerful



struts mounted inside there. Along with the two ends of the box that is the Ramp there are then five structural members giving that Ramp its serious stiffness. Nice design.

Interesting to speculate why the bottom edge of that ‘box’ rusted. In the photo showing the exposed stiffener note the large drain hole right under the end of that strut. The strut is clean and the Ramp face is clean and the drain hole is clean...but the rusty line along the entire length of the Ramp is lower than the drain holes. There are three nice drain holes, but apparently not quite placed exactly right.

I intend to weld a new panel across the bottom and get it smooth and flat – as good as new!

That's my plan, anyway! *Fran*

CMI Classifieds

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

I also offer full time Corvair repair

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

For Sale: LM front passenger side replacement floor pan excellent unused condition \$50. Set of 4 1965 Corsa wheel covers in good driver quality condition \$60 Jack Bacon
763-479-6214 jackchrisbacon@hotmail.com

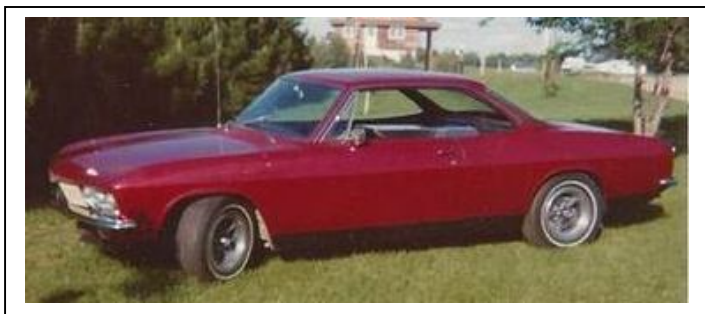
Wanted: 1965 Corsa Turbo 180 Turbocharged emblem for the rear deck lid in near mint to NOS condition Jack Bacon 763-479-6214 jackchrisbacon@hotmail.com

Trying to find the **1965 Corvair** I once owned.

I suppose converting a 1965 Corvair to a Corv-8/Corveight in the early 1970's is sacrilege to the Corvair purists, but I'm looking for help nonetheless, in trying to find my old corveight. It had a 327 corvette motor in the backseat, a Crown kit conversion. I sold it in 1975 and don't have the VIN, so know that I'm looking for a needle in a haystack, but thought I'd send this note to you in case someone remembers ever having seen the car and could provide a lead. If you could share this request and photo with some members, I'd appreciate it.

I've tried the MN DPS/DMV with no luck, since no computer records go back nearly that far, and paper records are not accessible. I've also posted a note on the corvaircenter.com site, and contacted the Corvair V-8 Registry. Recently I found the Mpls guy I sold it to, in WVA, but he doesn't have any records or the VIN, he had sold it to a Lake Street used car dealer after a year or two. Any other suggestions you might have to try to locate it would be appreciated. I suppose it's likely gone to a junk yard a long time ago.

Thank You Doug Carlson corvette99ht@yahoo.com



FOR SALE:

(DO YOU NEED A STEERING BOX IN THE FUTURE?)
- 60-63 for car used \$100.00
- 65-66 for car short staff \$100.00
- 64 for car - rebuilt \$200.00
(IF THESE ARE NOT SOLD THEY WILL GO TO A VENDOR)

FOR SALE; 1965 WHEEL COVERS -reasonable
WANTED; Left vent window for 1962 convertible

Jerry Berge 480-250-8816 ljbgpb01@aol.com

I have a **1969 Corvair** two door coupe which is in very good condition. I would like someone to contact me if there is interest as I may sell it. I note that there were only 6000 Corvairs made that year in total. It is royal blue in color and runs great. Car is in Moorhead, MN
Gary H. Olson
garyholson@702com.net 218-233-5130 Cell: 218-790-5130

Corvair Repair In Minnesota

Your Place or Mine
Part Time Casual, Off Season Is Best
Mobile Service, Trailering Service, Reasonable Rates
CORSA, Corvair Minnesota and SCCA Member
Jim Brandberg
2214 - 293 1/2 Av. NW, Isanti, MN 55040
763-444-9334 jimbrandberg@aol.com

Part Cleaning
Soda Blasting, Sand Blasting
Powder coating

Vince Rohr
vincerohr@hotmail.com

Zip printing & copy shop
Cori Judge
Assistant Manager
Office: 952.920.2113 • Cell: 612.788.4061
E-mail: Cori@zipcopyshop.com • Sat & Evening Appts Available
4950 Excelsior Boulevard • St. Louis Park, Minnesota 55416

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

OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT

Jack Bacon
195 Mallard Lane
Loretto, MN 55357-9523
763.479.6214
jackchrisbacon@hotmail.com

TREASURER

Ray Alexander
901 Woodlawn Ct
Burnsville, MN 55337-3627
651.334.8473
fleetcap@aol.com

VICE-PRESIDENT

Jim Becker
12930 37th ST
Clear Lake, MN 55319-1101
320-743-2889

SECRETARY

Chuck Johnson
9632 Wyoming Terrace
Bloomington, MN 55438-1640
952.947.9106
cljohnson99@gmail.com

MEMBER COORDINATOR

Jack Bacon
195 Mallard Lane
Loretto, MN 55357-9523
763.479.6214
jackchrisbacon@hotmail.com

COORDINATORS:

TECHNICAL EDITOR

Fran Schmit
3370 Library Lane
St. Louis Park, MN
55426-4224
952.929.9174
schmfran@hotmail.com

CLUB WEAR

Bill Cook
600 10th St SE
Buffalo, MN 55313-5025
612.940-9179

wdcacook@yahoo.com

HISTORIAN

Cara Knauf
401 West Street
New Ulm, MN 56073-1527
952.448.6983

EDITOR

John Herkenratt
408 7th St S
Hopkins, MN 55343-7722
Jherken1@netzero.net



Spot a 'Vair



Early (1964?) convertible @ Woodstock in 1969

.....
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

3370 Library Lane
St. Louis Park, MN 55426-4224
TEMP – RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



See you at some upcoming events!!