



# SEEL CORVAIR MINNESOTA NEWSLETTER

# **President's Page**

# October 2017

 $\Re t$  ime to get out and drive your Corvair a few more times before the cold weather come our way again. It's also time to think about being able to work on your Corvair year round. I am talking about finishing off your garage, an electric subpanel, with plenty of outlets, proper lighting, insulation drywall and then adding a gas heater with a thermostat. I just added two 16' lights strips with 16 T5 bulbs to my third stall where my Rampside is parked. That's 80,000 lumens of light. Wow, it is nice and bright now and much easier to work on the truck! I finished my garage in steps over 3 years-electrical, insulation and drywall the first year followed by a Hot Dawg gas heater, a 60 gallon Puma compressor and a two tone paint job. This year the lighting was upgraded and the only item left now is an epoxy or RaceDeck floor. Add some signs to the walls and you have a beautiful place to work and something that will add value to your house.

We had a good turnout at our September membership meeting at the MUM (Messiah United Methodist Church). We started the meeting at 6pm and spent the entire outside in the parking lot. Everyone split into two groups with Fran Schmit and Jim Becker giving a great Mega Tech Session. This was followed by a huge parts auction led by Lee Knauf and Chuck Johnson. Thanks guys!!

We will have our Adopt a Highway Cleanup on our section of Hwy 55 on Saturday October 7. Please contact Jim Becker if you can help out. Many hands equals short work. We will meet at Dobo's Restaurant at 8 am for breakfast followed by highway cleanup. After the highway cleanup and pie, we will caravan to Jim Becker's house. See details elsewhere in this issue of the SEEL. Thanks Jim for organizing this event.

Wrench, Drive, Repeat!

CORVAIR MINNESOTA ORIVAIR SOCIETY OF AMERICA

Jack Bacon

# **CORVAIR MINNESOTA**

### September 12, 2017

President Jack Bacon called the meeting to order and led the creed promptly at 6:13 in the MUM parking lot in Plymouth. 24 members and guests were in attendance, including some we hadn't seen in a while, Andy Fossen, Bud Brady, Ron Lucas, and Mark Berge. . .making for 3 generations of Berges in attendance!

Jim Becker led off the parking lot tech session by "going back to basics": the importance of engine shrouding and body plugs, clean your oil cooler, etc. It was a good review for everyone.

Next Jim and Fran split the group in halves so everyone could hear and see better. Among the many items covered, checking the umbilical electrical connections at BOTH ENDS periodically, de-flashing the heads for increased cooling, and brake drum maintenance.

While we had planned for the 2 leaders to trade groups, the two had overlapped and we were already running short of time, so we went straight to the auction.

Colonel Lee Knauf called the auction and there were very few "no sales". We plan to hold auctions again, maybe spring and fall or as inventory "pops up", what do you think?

We also hope to do more "hands on" tech sessions and welcome topics from those working on their Corvairs.

Everyone appeared to enjoy the old time parking lot tech session and auction.

Remember October 7 Adopt A Highway, more people needed!

We adjourned at 8 p.m. as the mosquitoes also planned a parking lot session.

Respectfully submitted, *Chuck Johnson* 









Three generations of Berges: Jerry, Mark and cody

(2)

# CMI 2017 Schedule

Membership meetings are on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. (unless otherwise announced)

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

- October 07 Adopt a Highway, start @ Dobo's, 8 a.m. followed by Tech Session at Jim Becker's home, 11 a.m. (rain date October 14) 10 Membership meeting - MUM 15 Roadsters Swap Meet, State Fairgrounds ( http://roadsterstwincities.com/ ) 26 Directors' meeting
- 14 Membership meeting MUM (Voters' meeting) November 29 Directors' meeting
- December 12 Membership meeting – MUM 28 Directors' meeting





What's wrong with this picture? Mr. Ralph Metzger of Metzger Chevrolet - Winchester, Ohio

# Corvair Minnesota August General Membership Meeting @ Peppermint Twist















# Adopt-A-Highway and Tech Session

For the last several years [*since 2012 – ed*], CMI has "adopted" a section of Highway 55, just west of Loretto. We will be cleaning up our highway on October 7. We will meet for breakfast at Dobo's Cafe and Bakery at 8 a.m. After breakfast, we will do the cleanup then return to Dobo's for a coffee break with a piece of pie, paid for by the club.

Our next stop will be Jim's place near Clear Lake. We expect to get there about 11 a.m., possibly a little later depending on how quickly the earlier activities informal lunch progress. While there, we will have and do an tech session. This will be essentially a continuation of the sessions we held at our most recent meeting at MUM. This time, we will not be under the tight time constraints we had at the meeting.

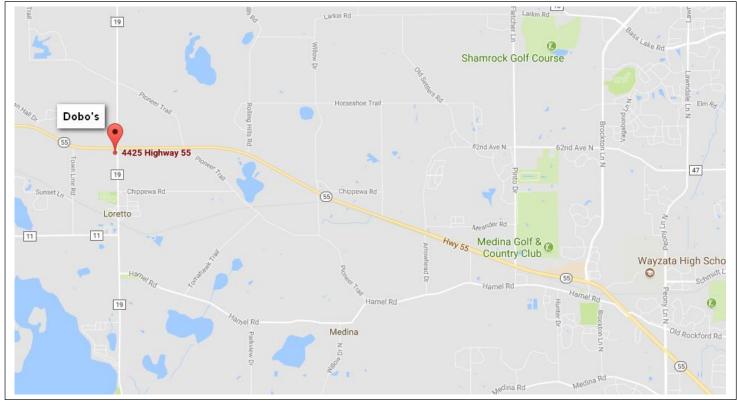
Dobo's Cafe is at 4425 Hwy 55, Loretto, MN 55357, on the southeast corner of the intersection of Highways 55 and 19. Jim's address is 12930 37th, Clear Lake, MN 55319. If you are not able to attend both the highway cleanup and the tech session, you are welcome to attend either one. We need members to SIGN UP IN ADVANCE. If you have not already signed up, let Jim Becker know at mr.jebecker@gmail.com or 320-743-2889. Indicate whether you will be at the cleanup, the tech session, or both. We need this information both to plan the activities and to know who we need to contact in case of a weather postponement. In case of bad weather, we will reschedule for October 14.



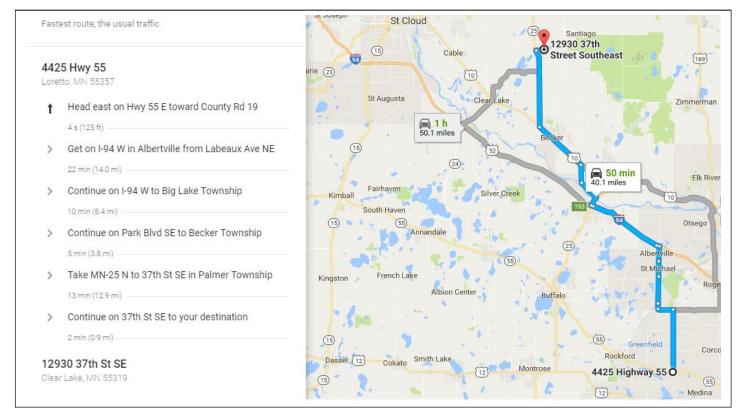
Maps are on the reverse.

#### Maps for Corvair Minnesota's Adopt a Highway/ Tech Session

### Dobo's Café: 4425 Hwy 55, Loretto, MN



#### Jim Becker's 12930 37<sup>th</sup> St SE, Clear Lake, MN phone: (320) 743-2889



### MONZA JR GO KART

As published in the Detroit Area Corvair Club September 2017 AIRCOOLER

Meet the newest addition to my Corvair family...a Monza Junior go kart fashioned after the GM show car, the Monza SS. I am proud to own this little gem, and I will be loaning it to the Corvair Preservation Foundation to be added to the wonderful collection of exhibits at our new Corvair Museum at the Chevy Hall of Fame in Decatur, Illinois.

Before leaving, it will have made its' first debut since I've owned it at our Detroit Corvair Homecoming on August 25th. I acquired this Monza Jr from the University of Detroit Jesuit Academy & High School. Under the direction of its Facility Engineer, Mr. Byron, along with ten high school students from their Automotive Class, they completely restored this historic kart. I named the cart after "Byron". The restoration was quite extensive as they fixed and reinforced the Fiberglass body, painted it black, modified the exhaust, and changed the engine out to a 4 HP Tecumseh motor. They put a Chevy Jr plate on the back (which is incorrect.) The original go kart had a Monza Junior plate on it (as shown by the "before" restoration photo I have).

They wanted the kart to go to someone who would appreciate its history and I promised them I would fulfill that mission. According to Mr. Marquis, and verified by Mr. Mickey Rupp himself, there were only 50 Monza Jr. go karts produced from 1965 - 1967. Mr. Marquis informed me that he was informed that there were only ten Monza Jr.s left in existence. My kart is body #47 with the serial number # 2220719. I first saw this go kart on display at this year's Detroit Autorama, and the desire to own it has haunted me ever since. These go karts were made by Rupp Manufacturing in Mansfield, Ohio. According to the conversation I had with Mickey Rupp, they were built on a fairly "stock" Dart Kart chassis with special Monza SS replica bodies attached that were designed by GM Designer, Larry Shinoda. There were two model versions of them. From 1965 to 1967 they were called Monza Juniors, were ember red in color, and had a raised hump behind the driver's seat (a clear marker for the earlier version models). From 1968 to approx. 1971, the name was changed to Chevy Jr., the color was marina blue and later changed to a more red orange, had a white stripe added to the nose, and the back was lowered behind the driver's seat. They were all powered by a 3.5 HP Lauren motor (a division of Tecumseh). The initial inspiration behind these go karts was when Bill Mitchell wanted to have one special made for his stepson. It was made at GM Styling with special features with one additional made for Chuck Jordan. In 1965, GM contacted the Rupp MGF in Mansfield, Ohio to produce more. These go karts were initially made just for Chevrolet to give away at auto shows, traveling Chevy shopping center shows, Chevy exhibits at fairs, etc. Chevrolet displayed them and raffled them away at auto shows and exhibits. (I happen to have a complete unused raffle ticket for a Monza Junior.)

There was also a fleet of Chevy Jr.s that were ordered with white bodies and used at the driver safety training facility called Safetyville, USA located in Flint, Michigan. It had a miniature set up of streets, sidewalks, and buildings that drivers would operate their Chevy Jr.s around while learning traffic safety. GM operated Safetyville, USA until 1978. I want to give a big thank you to my friend and fellow DACC member, John Tucker, who was instrumental in helping me get this go kart and transporting it to my house and back and forth to Homecoming. I would also like to thank Corvair historian, Rick Loving, and Mickey Rupp for providing me with the historical information regarding these go karts.

"Corvair Lady" Eva McGuire



Monza SS with Monza Junior (65-67)

Chevy Junior (68-71)

Chevy Junior (later)



Hello. This is Georgia Thometz, Paul's wife. We have the '64 Monza for sale. It is in great driving condition and I would be able to meet up with anyone interested. We are asking \$5500 but would accept a reasonable offer.

Paul is not able to get in the vehicle but he is doing okay. Hello to all who may remember him. Blessings, Georgia. 612-802-7685. Pictures are on Craig's list.

https://minneapolis.craigslist.org/csw/cto/d/1964-corvair-monza/6290443769.html

# 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 612-644-1258

**1964 Corvair** Convertible 2nd owner, 43K miles, four speed, 110HP Exterior: Maroon, Interior: Black, no rips/tears. Top & rear window in excellent condition. Dual exhaust, spinner hub caps. \$8,900. Curt Robinson 952 934-6069 or <u>Curtnanrob@aol.com</u>



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**1963 Monza** 110 Engine 4 speed, was running when put in storage, we have title, need to have key made. The car is located in Rogers, MN. \$2,000 obo. Ron Lucas 763-242-4090; 763-226-8440; 763-420-2569 lorrainelucas7@gmail.com



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**For Parts**: 3 lates, 2 coupes and 1 convert. Probably too much rust to restore, but they may have the part you need. Contact Rich Storlie <u>storlieaircooled@yahoo.com</u>

#### **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 ½ Av. NW, Isanti, MN 55040 763-444-9334 jimbrandberg@aol.com

**1967 Monza** coupe, family owned for almost 50 years. Stored inside all seasons and I do not drive it on wet roads or chemically treated roads. The odometer says about 117,000. New carpet and seat covers and repainted. Documentation from original purchase to current. Asking \$12,000. Greg Helm <u>helmster@integra.net</u> or my home phone 952-447-6495 Savage

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**1969 Monza** coupe with a 2.7 liter, 164 cubic inch engine, automatic transmission, royal blue exterior and interior. It is in very good condition with 33,491 miles on the odometer. \$14,500 or best offer. Gary H. Olson 3610 90th Avenue N Moorhead, MN 56560 e-mail: garyholson@702com.net cell: 218-790-5130 office/home: 218-233-5130

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Part Cleaning Soda Blasting, Sand Blasting Powder coating

Vince Rohr vincerohr@hotmail.com

#### WEBSITE:

#### http://www.corvairminnesota.com/

### — <u>Check out our website!!</u>

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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, <u>payable by Jan 01</u>, 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

