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The next meeting of the Pike's Peak Corvair Club will be held Sunday, January 17 at 9:30 a.m. via Zoom. Watch your email for a Zoom link. We'll 'meet' our 2021 officers, so please plan to attend!

Come On,

Like us on Facebook!



Official Newsletter of the



Founded in 1977



On The Cover: Picture published on Motorcities web site in an article titled 'A Brief History About the Chrevrolet Corvair', available at MotorCities - A Brief History About the Chevrolet Corvair | 2016 | Story of the Week

#### PRESIDENT'S GLOVEBOX

By John Green PPCC President

Hello Again, I'm back!!

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! I'm not going to say much about the last year, what is there to say...



I do want to say a great big THANK YOU to Mike Piper for being President in such a strange year. He kept the club together with the few inperson meetings we could do at various locations, and filled in the rest with Zoom meetings. While we can't be together, at least on Zoom we can see faces not behind masks. Also, thanks to Chris Kimberly for having a whole years worth of activities planned.

We did get to do the very nice Cripple Creek show and do a fall tour. Hopefully, we will be able to use most of her activities this coming year. The times we did get together for the few activities, it was great to see everyone and get caught up on things.

We had one of our largest Zoom meetings in December for our officer voting. Thanks to all who attended. Our leadership changed somewhat from 2020 to 2021, with several Board members changing positions.

I'd like to say thank you to Ken for being VP the last couple years and now transitioning to Mem-

ber at Large. He will continue to head the SeeMore committee as well. I'd like to thank Randy for staying on as Treasurer, and many thanks to Mary Ellen for taking notes and keeping us up to date on everything. Thanks to Jerry for serving as the member-at-large last year, and for moving into the VP role this year.

Tony has agreed to continue as membership chair, Chris will continue to handle activities, Patricia will still take care of our Facebook presence, and Kathy will remain in the newsletter Editor position. Doing double duty, Randy will continue to be our Web Master. Thanks to all whose volunteer efforts keep our club afloat!

Please remember that it's time to pay your annual dues. Make sure you get your dues in during January so Tony can update the membership roster and Randy can keep the bookkeeping up to date.

We'll keep holding zoom meetings until we can all get together safely again. Hopefully by summer we can have some outside meetings or shows can start happening. Be sure to watch the Drip Line, the website and emails for updates.

See you soon. Get those cars out on those nice days!

John



#### V.P. MESSAGE: HELLO THERE!

By Jerry Peevyhouse PPCC Vice President

As a relatively new PPCC member (joined in Aug. 2018), it seems appropriate to give a bit of an introduction to how I've arrived at this point in time, since it's taken me 73 years to arrive here. © I



know, you're saying "he doesn't look that old" but my body many times tells me "yes, you are". But since retiring in June of 2018, a couple of things that I've done to keep active is to join PPCC and working on the restoration of the blue '65 coupe I bought shortly after retiring.

We know everyone has their "Corvair Story", and mine began in 1968 while I was a "young" kid" stationed in the Air Force at Hickam AFB in Hawaii. Shortly after arriving, I ran across a guy who was rotating back to the mainland and had this white 1962 Powerglide 4 door Corvair for sale for \$100. It was cheap, I needed wheels, so the deal was done. It was an "island car", meaning it was originally registered on the island so it didn't have a ton of miles on it (hey, road trips are short there). I really enjoyed driving it, and it served me well, so 3 years later when it was time to rotate off the island, I sold it for ..... you guessed it, \$100. But as they say, the memories were priceless.

Fast forward through a LOT of years of life college, marriage (Keithann), 2 adult kids (Krista and Jason), 3 grandkids, career in the Bay Area, move to Colorado 15 years ago, but alas, no more Corvairs. 

But I always had that fond memory of the fun times in my island Corvair, so I was glad when a "cosmic alignment" arrived the month after I retired. My private aircraft pilot brother-in-law invited me to a meeting of the Experimental Aviation Association club he was a member of in which a Corvair powered Pietenpol aircraft was featured. In 1929, Bernard Pietenpol designed and built a two-seat open cockpit airplane powered by a Ford Model A engine. Back in the 1930s, the Model A Ford Engine was the



Upcoming Meeting Dates

#### **Upcoming Meetings**

Sunday, January 17, PPCC Club Meeting: 9:30 a.m. via Zoom.

Sunday, February 21, PPCC Club Meeting: 9:30 a.m. via Zoom.

Sunday, March 21, PPCC Club Meeting: 9:30 a.m. via Zoom.

#### V.P. MESSAGE: HELLO THERE!, cont.

By Jerry Peevyhouse **PPCC Vice President** 

engine of choice. It was cheap and plentiful. In the 60s, the Corvair automobile came along and its air-cooled engine was also well suited for the Pietenpol.

Also featured was our SeeMore cut-away car, brought there by Grumpy and Mary Ellen, along with some other PPCC members (you know who you are, sorry, I didn't get all the names).



Grumpy and the gang really made me feel welcome and it got me hooked again on getting a project car and in joining the PPCC to get some help in the restoration process. So, I joined the club at the August Old Colorado City car show/club meeting, and the rest is history as they say.

I bought my project car, a '65 500 "blue bomb" 4-speed Coupe from a guy in the Denver area and began the complete restoration of the interior and a lot of work on trying to fix the kluge things the guy had done to the car. I find the next new member that wants to reprobably rushed into the purchase without fully checking it out, but, hey, do we always do things the right way? Not always.

But I've learned a ton by the "just do it" philosophy of life, with a lot of help from club members along the way. The inside is done, now the next thing is the body work and

painting sometime down the road. I've had fun driving it around locally this summer, but, alas, it's tucked away in the garage for at least part of the winter. I've recently had right shoulder rotator cuff surgery, and a stick shift is not my friend for now. 

I will, however, take our club member's sage advice to at least start it periodically during the winter.



So, all this to say that I'm looking forward to putting 2020 "hindsight" behind us and moving forward into hopefully a better year in 2021. I think Keithann and I are getting together with a few friends (oops, can I say that?) on New Years Eve and have a calendar burning party to extinguish 2020.

Let's continue to support whatever club events we're going to be able to have next year, and be ready for opportunities to tell others about the club. It took a "cosmic alignment" for me to find the club, so let's work to kindle the Corvair flame.



#### MEETING MINUTES- December 13, 2020

Submitted By Mary Ellen Feasel, PPCC Secretary

Held via Zoom

Called to order at 9:37 a.m. via Zoom. Fifteen members present, WOOHOO!!!!! Great response!



No 50/50 raffle

Minutes of last months (November) meeting approved.



**Treasurers report:** The treasurer's report is available to all members via our email list serv.



**Mail:** Several dues payments received. Mary Ellen stated she has sent condolence cards to the Russert's and the family of former PPCC member Dennis Pleau. Rick informed the group that long time RMC member Bud Duncan, known by many PPCC members, had passed away. He forwarded their address to Mary Ellen for a card to be sent.



Membership: No updates



**SeeMore**: No new updates. SeeMore is in hibernation. Is in good shape for future shows. Discussed the battery on board the trailer. New tires may be in order for any upcoming long distance trips.



Info regarding the National Convention in San Diego is up and down. The Tri State, hosted by CNM, may be moved back to mid-October 2021.



No new events coming up.

**2021 PPCC Board Election** nominations, all board nominations were unopposed.

President-John Green; Vice President-Jerry Peevyhouse; Treasurer-Randy Karl; Secretary-Mary Ellen Feasel; Member at Large-Ken Schifftner; Past President-Mike Piper



Voting was held by raise of hands. New Board was elected.



On to other stuff:

The Green's, Rick Beets and Mike Piper attended the impromptu BBQ lunch arranged by Eric of RMC earlier this month.



Ken has suggested a column in the newsletter that focuses on the persons in the Corvair hobby. Questions like how you got into the hobby, stories from their involvement in the hobby, or just about the person outside the Corvair hobby.



Discussed the membership dilemma in the Corvair hobby, both at the national and local level. A tri-fold brochure from the past was discussed for membership recruitment. Someone in the group has one. May get it reproduced and circulate it at hotels, museums, and other venues with each clubs information stamped on it with contact information.





#### MINUTES, Cont.

Submitted by Mary Ellen Feasel

**Tech session**, not covered in previous discussions.

Care for batteries in cold weather was discussed.

The Green's coupe and Lakewood have been under the weather. Was determined on the coupe that the cable was poorly spliced. One of the carburetors on the Lakewood had a clogged tube.

Mike's red car was so full of wire nuts he replaced all the wiring harnesses when he restored it.

Randy's car is running good. Has an oil leak he can't find and will check it out before he returns the engine lift.

In closing John Neal, and the group joined in, thanked Mike for his year as President. We all agreed it was an unusual year to be PPCC President.

Next meeting is January 17, 2021

Adjourned 10:42 a.m.



#### TECH TIP: LAST MONTH'S COVER PHOTO

Submitted By Steve Goodman

This month is a quick journey back in time. In 1961 a rally series was started across Canada sponsored by Shell. It was aptly named Shell 4000. The interest for sports cars was instant and teams from Volvo/Jaguar/Porsche/M-B/Peugot/Saab and even Studebaker Lark and Ford Falcon appeared.

There was one more team involved here too: Chevrolet Corvair. David E. Davis Jr was editor of C&D. He talked Ed Cole into a 3 car rally effort. Now two factors come into play here. First was a general agreement that little racing would be done by the big 3. The other was complaining by Zora Arkus-Duntov. Duntov was the recognized father of the Corvette and he absolutely despised Corvairs. Be that as it may DED Jr won out and for 1961 the team participated. Head driver was famous rally and road racer Denise McCluggage. According to DED Jr accounts she was a bit head strong and could be difficult but she still was a great driver when it counted.

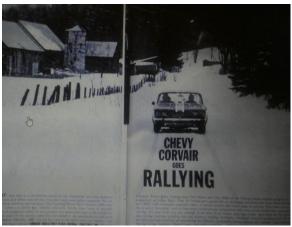
The cars fared decently in 1961 and the Corvair used by Denise was designated 'Corvair sedan' in the entry list. The initial entry was damaged in a parking lot accident according to stories.

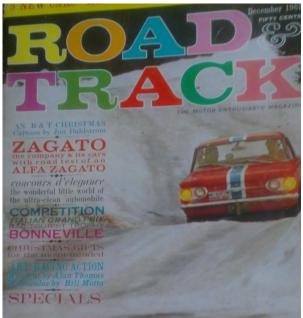
Several other rallies around the states used Corvairs and the team rejoined for the 1962 Shell 4000 and again with decent results. This time the designation was "Corvair Turbocharged".

Now we get to the cover photo Kathy used last month. It showed an early coupe driving away from the camera on a snow cov-

ered rural road. Note that you can see the 'rally' stripes easily in the pic.

Below is the complete picture, a two page spread of advertising by GM titled "Chevy Corvair goes Rallying". The small text extolls the virtues of rear engine/ turbocharging/etc. Also included here is the color cover of R&T December 1961 with our beloved car in color glory.





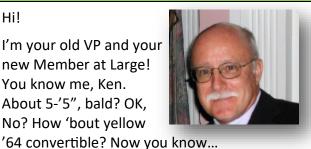
Ah, those were the days.....

#### BANTER

Submitted By Ken Schifftner, Member at Large

Hi!

I'm your old VP and your new Member at Large! You know me, Ken. About 5-'5", bald? OK, No? How 'bout yellow



Given my new extremely powerful position, I thought I could submit things to both Kathy at PPCC and Paul at RMC that might be of interest to both clubs. For many of us, the clubs are really "sister" clubs that live under the CORSA umbrella. There are bound to be things of common interest. The year 2021 certainly will not be a wasteland of topics, both specific and general. I hope to find some and share.

Let's start by going very general. One of the things that I miss from group gatherings inperson is the banter. The banter may be member to member or openly shared. The banter could be questions, jokes, memories, or just idle BS. No matter. The banter makes the meeting at least for me.

I was once at a party wherein I overheard one "banter" that stuck with me. There was a woman there (very attractive) who I was told used to be in TV commercials. A fellow came by to attempt to "talk" with her, was rejected, didn't give up and eventually the conversation I heard finally started.

The majority of the content is neither memorable nor worth reporting here but at one point he asked her "How did you become you?".

"How did you become you?". Interesting question. How DO we become who we are? And isn't that something that may be of interest to others? They see who we are but what

about the path to get there?

Other CORSA clubs encourage members to talk about how they got involved with Corvairs. All well and good. But why not tell us more?

Example. I know of a CORSA member who received instrumentation training in the military, became an emergency room tech person, got into Corvairs and later repaired Corvair speedometers. Another person was an announcer at dirt track events. And we all know a guy who used to work on helicopters before his Corvair career. Another CORSA member was a ghost writer for automotive publications.

How DID you become you? What things affected your life path? What was and perhaps still are important? And yes, how did those things influence your connection to the Corvair?



Please drop a note to me with "banter" you are willing to share. I'm sure your fellow Corvair club members will be interested. Have a Happy New Year!

#### MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL—DO WOP A DUES, DUES, DUES!

Dues are due! Please consider renewing your membership in the Pikes Peak Corvair Club. Dues are \$25 per year. Club dues are due in January and we'd love it if you could renew soon to help with paperwork.

We don't take your membership in this Club for granted, and are deeply appreciative of the support every member provides in being able to keep the Corvair out in front of the public to enjoy. We're looking forward to a new year, hopefully full of great activities to continue to maintain the highly regarded reputation our club has in southern Colorado. So, thank you all, now go get that checkbook and renew today!

To help our Treasurer, Mr. Randy Karl, manage the books effectively, we would ask that everyone **please send their dues renewal check in no later than 15**January, 2021 to the following address: PPCC, ATTN: Treasurer-2020 Dues, P.O. Box 15034, Colorado Springs, CO 80935. We'd like to close the books on the 2021 Membership Drive by the end of February, and your support in meeting that goal would be greatly appreciated.



A reminder that while membership in CORSA is not a prerequisite for new membership, or renewal in the PPCC, we do strongly encourage support of the national organization, which works to support our local efforts through an event liability insurance policy, and free hosting of our Chapter website.

In addition, all CORSA members receive a subscription to the CORSA Communique magazine and the right to post their own classified ads both online and in print. You'll receive a membership roster with contaction information in case you get stuck on the road, and leads to reputable Corvair vendors all across the country. Membership also grants access to all the pages on the CORSA website, and access to our bookstore where you can purchase CORSA Tech Guides written by real Corvair experts. And

you'll have the satisfaction of knowing that CORSA covers local chapters with liability insurance, making it possible for all of us to enjoy chapter meetings, car shows and other events without legal hassles.

And if that's not enough, please remember - anybody who has never been a member before also receives a copy of Corvair Basics, gratis.

#### RMC / PPCC Gathering

Submitted by Kathy Green

On a beautiful December Saturday (December 5), twenty RMC and PPCC members, with 6 Corvair's including Eric Shakel's Yenko Stinger, made their way to B-Man's Barbeque in Sedalia for an impromptu gathering to support this small, local business. We had a wonderful, safe time sharing GREAT food and long overdue conversations with folks from whom we've been separated for far too long. Many thanks to Eri Schakel for organizing this event!

Members present included: Rick & Charlie Beets (RMC/PPCC), John & Kathy Green with Coda (RMC/PPCC), Mike Piper (RMC/PPCC), Christine Kimberly (RMC/PPCC), Larry & Cheryl Schubert (RMC), Chuck & Carolyn Riblett (RMC), Rob Brereton (RMC), Melissa (Rob's daughter) and her husband, Dale Nielsen (RMC), Jeff & Lisa Romeo (RMC), Paul Seyforth (RMC), Eric & Linae Schakel (RMC), and John Whitely (RMC).

Everyone seemed to enjoy our time together, and no one seemed overly eager to leave. If you have a local business that could use a group of rear engine visitor's, let us know and we'll see if we can make it happen. Please enjoy these pictures from the

day!









#### WINTERTIME ODORS

Submitted by Kathy Green

This is a shortened and edited version of Mike Dawson's original article in the November issue of The Flat Six, the newsletter of the Prairie Capital Corvair Association, reprinted in the November 2020 issue of the Group Corvair Comments newsletter.) As we're moving into winter, the timing seemed appropriate.

#### Wintertime Corvair Heater Odors.

Mike Dawson notes that when he first picked up his brand new '65 Corsa Coupe in February 1965, he noted the heater had a distinctive sent of hot paint and hot metal that he grew to love. But if your heater doesn't smell like that, here are his five things to check:

Raw Gas Smell: It's possible to get a brief startup smell of gasoline, but if it persists during driving and at a stop, this is a warning. Check immediately for a leak – carburetor inlet nut, fuel pump, and rubber hoses are all likely suspects. Find the leak and fix it; there are plenty of ignition sources in the engine compartment. Note also that you might get a gasoline smell from spilled gasoline in the filler compartment or a leaky fuel tank filler neck hose.

**Burned Oil Smell:** This is usually the smell of oil leaking from the push rod tube seals that are just above the exhaust manifolds. Other possibilities are from the engine top cover or a flywheel end main seal on an automatic equipped car. An early sign of a leak from these sources might be an oily haze on the windshield.

**Leaking Crankcase Vapors:** Mike points out that these are particularly annoying smells, worse than the burned oil smell above. This vapor, from ring blowby and hot oil in the crankcase, can get into the heater very easily because the entire engine vent system is in the heater air intake path. Check for plugged PCV vents, broken grommets, brittle hoses, and loose vent attachments.

**Exhaust Gas:** Not only nasty smelling while the chokes are on, but it is also dangerous because of the Carbon Monoxide (CO) from the combustion chamber. Sometimes the smell goes away as the chokes come off and the intake mixture becomes less rich, but the CO continues! Check the entire exhaust system, particularly the six exhaust packings between the heads and the exhaust "logs". One way to find the leaks is with a stethoscope or rubber hose to your ear and listen to each packing with the engine running and the fan belt removed. Fix these leaks immediately; your life depends upon it.

**Leaking Head Gaskets:** Mike believes these are the worst smell of the bunch. It has a high content of unburned hydrocarbons that will make your eyes water. And, yes, it has plenty of CO as well. A burnt head gasket will have a "spit, spit, spit" sound while a loose head will make more of a "squeak, squeak, squeak" sound most noticeable as you accelerate. Both are the sounds of combustion gases escaping and making the head gasket act as a reed valve.

There are other possible smells – burning mouse nests, acid from an overcharging battery, and other mysterious matter kicked up from the road.

#### **DRIP QUIPS**

As shared by Jerry Peevyhouse...it's all so 2020

## I was afraid this would happen...



If you have a fun, amusing, touching or interesting story or picture you think can bring a smile, an 'aaaaah' or an 'eeek', please send your submission to karmknecht@msn.com, attention: Drip Quips.

#### 2021 PPCC Activities Calendar

All club events will be noted on the Club's interactive calendar, located on our website, https:// pikespeakcorvairclub.wixsite.com/ppcc/calendar



Sunday, January 17, PPCC Club Meeting: 9:30 a.m., via Zoom.

Sunday, February 21, PPCC Club Meeting: 9:30 a.m., via Zoom.

Sunday, March 21, PPCC Club Meeting: 9:30 a.m., via Zoom.

#### **Recurring Local Events:**

Second Saturdays of the Month, Year-Round, 12pm-3pm: "Littleton Cruise", 1500 W Littleton Blvd, Littleton, CO. Hot rods and muscle cars. Convertibles and hard tops. Oversized tires and custom-painted flames. Join us year round as we cruise Littleton Boulevard every second Saturday of the month at the Woodlawn Shopping Center located in the heart of Littleton, Colorado. For more info on the cruise, check out their website @ https:// littletoncruise.weebly.com/





Icon indicates regularly scheduled PPCC meeting



Icon indicates show or event which may be of interest to members



Icon indicates show or event in which we have committed PPCC representation, or for which PPCC will provide support or sponsorship

### Corvair Partners & Local Businesses Which PPCC Members Have Frequented with Positive Results

With so many new members joining the Club, we felt it might be a good time to (re)educate folks on where they can obtain reliable parts and service for their Corvairs, both near and far.

Here are just a few of the companies our members have had good luck with in the past.

*NOTE:* These are only recommendations only, as we do not solicit sponsors for the Club, or the newsletter. So, do your own research as well.



Serving all of your Corvair mechanical needs for more than 51 years, Steve can make whatever is wrong with your Corvair right again. Locally owned and operated!



If you need your Corvair blasted, or just need the paint or rust removed from parts, Blast-Tech provides a great service for a fair price. Locally owned and operated!!



Recommended by members who were pleased with the service and quality of the glass. Fair price for a new windshield. Located in Monument for those coming from the North or the South. Locally owned and operated!



Clarks Corvair Parts - Nuff said!!



An old school alignment shop with all of the Corvair specs, early and late. Ask for Dave! Locally owned and operated!



Yes, I'm sure they get lots comments on the name, but they do quality powder coating at a reasonable price.

Locally owned and operated!

#### PPCC Admin

<u>Monthly Meetings</u>: The PPCC meets at 9:30am on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month at various locations within the Colorado Springs area. Check the Club's website for the most current meet-up info.

Membership & Dues: PPCC dues are \$25 per year, payable each January for the coming year. Membership in CORSA is encouraged, but is not a prerequisite for

membership in the PPCC. Please refer to the Club's website below to obtain a copy of the current membership application and guidance for submission. Checks for dues should be made payable to "PPCC" and mailed to: PPCC, ATTN: Treasurer, P.O. Box 15034, Colorado Springs, CO 80935. <a href="http://www.corvair.org/chapters/chapter809">http://www.corvair.org/chapters/chapter809</a>

Editorial Contributions: Please send your stories, suggestions, recipes, jokes, and/or photos directly to karmknecht@msn.com, or mail them to PPCC, ATTN: Newsletter Editor, P.O. Box 15034, Colorado Springs, CO 80935. Preferred format for electronic submission of documents is MS Word, and format for pictures would be JPEG. Deadline for submitting information to The Drip Line is the 24th of the month for the next month's publication.

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Treasurer	Randy Karl		karlrj at comcast.net	Board
Past President	Mike Piper		Mapiper3 at comcast.net	Board
Member at Large	Ken Schifftner		Kschifftner48 at gmail.com	Board
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