

The Denvair News

Volume 47 Issue 1

January 2021



They're still out there. Mike Piper found this Greenbrier at his grandchild's preschool.

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End of the year Ramblings

At this time of year last year, I was looking through the windshield at a year that just wasn't meant to be. Tri-State in Albuquerque NM, and the National Convention, both representing RMC as our president. Covid wasn't even on my radar, and I doubt anyone else saw it coming either. Then when I became sick with some kind of mystery illness in January, I went to the doctor thinking I had come down with pneumonia, things went really sideways. Not pneumonia, but they couldn't figure out what. Now looking back, I'm convinced I was an early victim of "that damned virus". We also lost more than one long time members this last year. Among those was Bud Duncan. Bud was a great man and great supporter of the Corvair community. I will miss him, and am now extremely pleased he and Linda were able to make the honk and wave we did for Jonni Birkman a few months back.



After that, Covid became a major problem, and the 1st time in my life, the world came to a screeching halt. No in person meetings, Tri-State and Nationals canceled, all that was left to do, was work. Fortunately, I've worked remotely for most of my various careers, so nothing changed much for me. Actually, I was busier than usual. Now almost a year into this thing, not much has changed on either a local or global scale. Our extended family of Corvaholics got creative and managed to eek out a vague semblance of normality. First, was being able to hold meetings in my spacious back yard as we moved into spring and summer. Next, the PPCC event in July down Cripple Creek that a number of RMC'ers attended, the a formentioned honk and wave for Jonni Birkman in September, and ending up at B-Man's BBQ in Sedalia (thank you again Eric and Linae!) for an impromptu meet up for some awesome BBQ just a few short weeks ago. It was great to see everyone who came out on a sunny Saturday in December and am ready to do it again at the earliest opportunity. Am I disappointed in what didn't happen this year? Yes, very. But with the limited number of events we were able to have, I am very glad I was able to attend.

Now, as 2020 moves into our rearview mirror, I am heartened for the 2021 I hope to see in the windscreen. With vaccines in distribution, and possible being widely distributed as we move into the 1st and 2nd quarters, hopefully our lives will begin to return to some sort of normalcy. I see masking into the summer months, but hopefully the national convention won't get postponed again. Speaking of postponements, Corvairs New Mexico has determined that their best course of action to hopefully ensure Tri-State happens in 2021, has set a tentative date mid to late October rather than May as originally planned. Weekend of the 23rd is what I'm hearing right now. I'm looking forward to attending both. I'll also be in regular contact with A.J. at Elway to see when we can get back into the meeting room for monthly meetings. Until then, we will hold our meetings on Zoom starting January 8, 2021.

Thanks again for allowing me to preside over this band of merry misfits for another year. Be safe, send your dues to John Dinsdale, drive your Corvair, and above all be safe.

Here's to a better 2021! See you then! Rick

RMC Does BBQ!

The civilized world, already rattled by election BS and and Covid-19, was further rocked by news that Sedalia's BMan's BBQ was cutting back to three days a week. They are good people who serve excellent, fresh BBQ.

Opened less than a year before the Covid restrictions began to impact Colorado, BMan's is the dream of Roxanne and Brian, veterans who wanted a small cozy town near the Denver market for their crack at a family business. Linae and I became regulars, and were pleased to see them continue to make ends meet. But after the elections, business abruptly fell off. No clear reason why, yet traffic in once-bustling Sedalia is down across the board. BMan's has cut days, they've taken part-time jobs, and are crossing fingers that 2021 will bring new opportunity. How to help them?



It was somewhat spur of the moment to invite Corvairs for lunch – how often do we get sunshine and 60 degrees on a Saturday in the middle of December? I'm pleased to report that 20 RMC members showed, enjoyed excellent BBQ (served in impressive portions, too!), and managed to have a casual car show with six Corvairs and one noisy Yenko Stinger.

Featuring outdoor service, a drive-up window, outside tables nicely spaced, and masks all around, the event was as safe as a gathering can be these days. Everyone seemed comfortable, hanging around for several hours before firing up Corvairs for rides home. The BMan's people were very thankful, too, as the extra revenue was an unexpected boost to their cash flow.



Open Thursday, Friday, and Saturday's for the foreseeable future, if you want a rural-ish destination for a Corvair run, or just good BBQ, give BMan's a try. You won't be disappointed.

Eric Schakel

RMC Club News



Long time member Bud Duncan passed away December 6th, 2020. He and Linda were regular attendees at our club meetings and events for many years. They were proud owners of their 62 Monza convertible 'Red Baron'. Auf Wiedersehen Bud. You will be missed.

Year 2020 is long gone. We doubt that anyone will miss it. Zoom meetings (and some very pleasant backyard meetings) as well as postponed events were the standard fare. Hopefully this year the covid vaccine will open things up a bit but probably not till this summer or maybe even the fall. Our sister club; Corvairs of new Mexico have prudently decided to move the Route 66 Tri- State meet to October, 15th to the 17th. The host hotel will still be the same; the Marriott Pyramid Hotel in Albuquerque. Later in the year but very do-able. Hats off to CNM.

Do not forget to send in your 2021 RMC dues to John Dinsdale. All the Club dues are due in January. Only \$25 again this year. Mail address: John Dinsdale, 3240 Billings St., Aurora, CO 80011-2231.

While we are at it we would like to plug CORSA, the Corvair Society of America. This the national organization that ties all the local clubs together. CORSA members receive a subscription to the CORSA Communique magazine. They can to post their own classified ads both online and in print, request a membership roster with contact information in case you get stuck on the road, leads to reputable Corvair vendors, access to the CORSA website, and access to the bookstore where you can purchase CORSA Tech Guides. And you'll have the satisfaction of knowing that CORSA covers local chapters with liability insurance. All this for \$45 a year. A bargain!

Last Item: You may have noticed that I am still editing and publishing The Denvair News. I had planned to retire from this position in December (8 years is plenty) but no one has stepped up to assume the role. I don't want the club to be without a newsletter so I will continue on a month to month basis. Really, the time has come for some new blood in this job, so how about it.

Banter

Ken Schiffner

I'm your old VP and your new Member at Large! You know me, Ken. About 5-'5", bald? OK, No? How 'bout yellow '64 convertible? Now you know...

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 in-person 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.

As "The Rest of the Story" about that woman at the party. Rather than be impolite and try to overhear the conversation, I walked away while that fellow kept talking to that girl (she didn't seem too interested). I guess they ran out of something to say and he left. A while later I saw another guy go over to her and offered her a glass of wine. She smiled and the wine giver smiled. I never heard if she revealed what made her become her, but I did learn thus must be some sort of power in wine!

TRANSMISSION SWAP Part 2 Randy Karl

If you're following this story from Last Month's Dripline, I ended with the hope I would be done by the end of the month. However, I didn't say which month... No, really, progress has been good. Like most of my hobbies, I fit them in when I can but that doesn't always work as planned. Even though I've been working from home, the last few weeks have been busier than normal and other things have to wait.

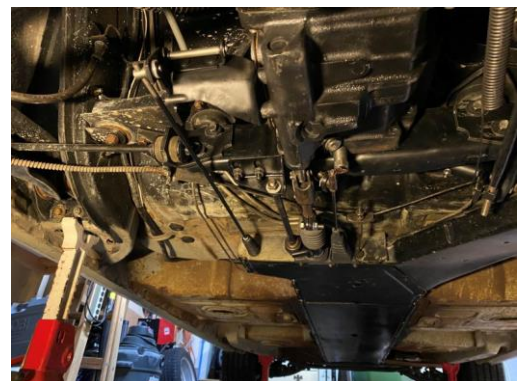
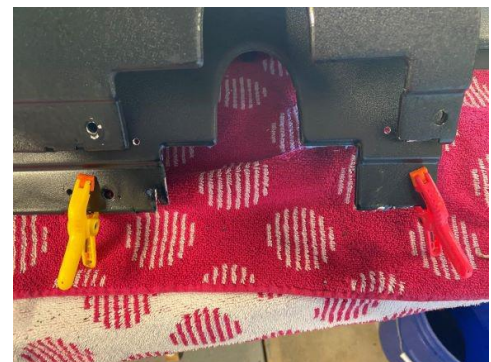
When I left off last month the engine and transaxle were out and separated. I began assembling the differential, clutch, pressure plate, transmission, etc. Steve Goodman had coached me on this process and assembly went as instructed.

The next day I installed the motor and transaxle and called it a weekend. *I do want to mention I am using John Neal's spiffy floor jack with a Corvair engine mount. "Thanks John". It works great!* Next came the shifter, shift tube and clutch cable, etc. This also went well until I was confronted with in-stalling the shift rod boot over the end of the shift tube as it exits the tunnel. It had to go over the strut rod mount there.

Well it turns out it does stretch enough. While I was down there, I replaced the accelerator linkage bushings and other deteriorated rubber. So, with the tunnel work done I moved to the dash.

I had acquired a LM manual dash panel from I don't remember where so that was cleaned and painted and assembled with my gauges. However, it did not want to fit. Closer inspection and comparison I saw the area around the steering column is narrower than the PowerGlide dash. I assumed the "beefier" 68 steering column mounts are wider than whatever year the manual dash came from. I disassembled the dash and measured, marked and cut the plastic and metal to match.

I chose not to roll the aluminum at the cut for fear of distorting the rest of the dash and it is not notice-able unless you're under the dash. (No concours award waiting here).



At the 2017 Tri-State in Taos, I was lucky enough to win an Otto oil pan and valve covers. I took this opportunity to install the oil pan. I hope this solid aluminum pan cures my leaks. You would think by now I would have everything done and completed at test drive. Sorry, I'm disappointed in me too. I just need to put the wheels on and get her on the ground. Tomorrow or Saturday it will happen. I promise. I want to again thank everyone who contributed to this project.



Update: Took a successful test drive Saturday and all is well. One reverse and four forward speeds! Even got a "feels right" from Dave Feasel. It's been years since I drove a manual but it's kinda like riding a bike.

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Toys for tots Update

Rob Brereton

Corvair people are a generous lot. When our annual Holiday Party was cancelled, RMC members made several decisions to continue to support underprivileged children. In most years we collect toys for the annual Toys for Tots campaign at our Holiday Party. While we tried to go on with the event, the cancellation left us without a format for this support. Toys for Tots is operated by the Marine Corps Reserves, and has been going on since 1947. Today they distribute millions of toys each year to children in need at Christmas.

RMC members voted at the December meeting to donate \$300 from our funds to the Toys for Tots Foundation. This is approximately the cost the event would cost the club if we held a holiday party.

After discussion with Cory and Gail, who were not able to attend the meeting, I offered to hold a collection at my house, with drive-by gift drop-off, and sent the details out the Monday after the meeting. My plan was to collect on Sunday afternoon, December 13. I savored the idea of a steady stream of Corvairs dropping off presents. It would also offer an opportunity for our members to sign a card for Linda Duncan—which is difficult when we aren't gathering. Unfortunately the snowy weather didn't cooperate with my plans, and while many members dropped off toys, there were no Corvairs passing by my house on the snowpacked sloppy roads. Our '65 convertible passed for a sleigh with the collection bin in the trunk.

Thanks to everyone who came by with their presents for children in need! About 20 presents and one check were delivered to the Toys for Tots warehouse in Aurora on December 16.

--Rob



Rocky Mountain Corsa Meeting Minutes November 2020

Meeting Date: November 7, 2020

Called to Order: 10:32am

Location: Rick Beet's breezy backyard & via Zoom Meeting, Anywhere, USA **# Present:** 15 + 2 Zoom.

- **Guests, long distance, new members:** New member Eddie Floyd works Sat, couldn't come, he has 7-8 Corvairs.
- **Standard Business:**
 - Minutes of last meeting: October minutes were approved.
 - Treasury report: The end of October balance was \$5,477.58. Treasurer's report was approved.

Mailbag: Nothing.

Old Business:

- CCCC renewal will be paid in March based on actual membership..
- Membership—Dues are \$25 annually and renew at first of year. 7 have renewed so far. Please pay by end of February.
- Thanks Paul for another great newsletter for Nov / Dec. Paul agreed at meeting to produce a January newsletter but is then leaving the Newsletter editor role.
- Holiday Party is Dec 5, 4pm, at the Littleton Café, 1409 W Littleton Blvd. We will order from the menu. Everything is on track. The goal is 25-30 people. Invite will be extended to PPCC, which is not holding a Holiday Party. Count needed by Nov 23. Masks are required except when eating. Distancing rules are up to the club. The gift exchange rules were shared. Toys for Tots donation box will be available for unwrapped toys.
- New Year's Brunch at Dunraven Inn, 10:30am. \$20 for buffet. Eggs, sausage, potatoes, fruit, pastries, beverages, and a cash bar. Need count by Mid-December, RSVP to Rick Beets.
- Elections nominations were held. Elections will be at the Holiday Party in Dec. President, VP, Secretary, Treasurer, and Member at Large are willing to remain.
- Appointed: Tony Lawler for Membership and Caron & Jimmie for Activities are willing to continue.

New Business:

- Greg Cerza brought the donuts. Thanks Greg.
- Tri-State Meet has been rescheduled to May 14-16 in Albuquerque
- The CORSA annual meeting will be held on Zoom Tues at 7. Details to follow on RMC list.

Upcoming events:

- Next meeting is Holiday Party
- New Year's Brunch is on a Friday so it is effectively the meeting.

For Sale or Wanted, Recently Purchased, Projects

- Tony Lawler shared his, fun with the Spyder. He drove it for entire fall drive and more trips to Co Springs, when it was running hotter and weak. It had a dead cylinder, and he expected a fouled plug, but a compression test revealed #2 cyl at zero. It was due to a valve adjusted in too far, and valves not closing. Adjust your valves properly. It's real happy now.
- Colo Auto Salvage has an early convertible, which is burned.
- Paul asked how John Dinsdale's fender replacement went, the sedan is at the shop for body and paint. John will then be putting new weatherstrip in.

50/50 Raffle: \$56 total was collected. \$30 went to the club and \$26 went to winner Gail Levin.

Meeting adjourned at 11:10am.

Respectfully submitted by Rob Brereton

Rocky Mountain Corsa Meeting Minutes

December 2020

Meeting Date: December 4, 2020 **Called to Order:** 7:04pm
Location: Zoom Meeting, Anywhere, USA **# Present:** 12 Zoom.

• **Guests, long distance, new members:** None

• **Standard Business:**

Minutes of last meeting: November minutes were not reviewed.

Treasury report: The end of November balance was \$5,807.58. Treasurer's report was approved.

Mailbag: Nothing.

Old Business:

- Elections: Nominees were President Rick Beets, Vice President Mike Timmons, Treasurer John Dinsdale, Secretary Rob Brereton, and Member at Large Ken Schifftner to continue. The 2021 officers were elected unanimously.
- The Holiday Party was cancelled. For Toys for Tots, Mike Piper proposed a \$300 donation, which was approved. Rob B offered to host a collection drop off, and will send out details.
- Eric and Linae Schakel arranged a get-together show and lunch tomorrow 12/5 at 11:30 – 1:00 at B-Man BBQ in Sedalia. It's a veteran-owned family business, or so.
- New Year's Brunch was cancelled as they will not open until after the first of the year.

New Business:

- There was discussion of revisiting CORSA membership requirement. The Corvair Basics is a perk for joining CORSA currently. It was suggested that there should be additional promotion for CORSA. The group on the call were all CORSA members and Rob noted that this was preaching to the choir, while many new members not on the call are not CORSA members.
- Discussion of Denvair News and Editor position. Paul will do a January episode. Rick asked if maybe he could continue a few more months?

Upcoming events:

- We will have a Fri January 8th Zoom meeting in lieu of the New Year's Brunch.

For Sale or Wanted, Recently Purchased, Projects

- Discussed John Dinsdale's car paint project status, then he was asked if he was converting to 4 speed. He's not doing it. This led to a discussion of a job done and documented by Randy Karl In CO Springs on a '68, which was a bit of a challenge due to a mismatched '65 donor car.
- There were also discussions of 3.08 gears and home powder coating.

50/50 Raffle: None.

Meeting adjourned at (not recorded).

Respectfully submitted by Rob Brereton

RMC Club Page

Rocky Mountain Corsa (RMC) has been a chartered chapter (#802) of the Corvair Society of America (CORSA) since October 1974 and is dedicated to the preservation and enjoyment of Corvair automobiles.

The Denvair News is a monthly publication for members and affiliates of Rocky Mountain Corsa.

Editorial Contributions We encourage your participation! Please forward stories, ideas, jokes, recipes, and/or photos to the Editor. Content must be received by the 15th of the month prior to the desired publication month. Electronic files are *mucho* preferred.

Classified Ads Individual RMC member ads are free. Classified ads are limited to 25 words and may include a photo. All ads will run for three issues. Non-members may advertise for \$10.00. Please submit ads to the Editor, with payment due in advance to the Treasurer. Please make checks out to RMC.

Business Advertising Commercial advertisers are welcome. The following per-issue rates apply:

Business card size – \$2.50 ¼ page – \$5.00 ½ page – \$10.00 Full page – \$20.00

RMC Mailing Address

Correspondence, ads, & articles may be snail-mailed to:
RMC PO Box 27058 Lakewood, CO 80227-0058

Web Site: www.rockymountaincorsa.org

Membership & Dues

Rocky Mountain Corsa annual dues are \$25.00, due each year by February 28. Checks should be payable to RMC, mailed to: *RMC, c/o John Dinsdale, 3240 Billings St., Aurora, CO 80011-2231*

Monthly Meeting

RMC typically holds meetings the 1st Friday of each month at our host dealership, Elway Chevrolet, 5200 South Broadway in Englewood. Join us at 7:00 PM in the upstairs meeting room.

RMC Officers

President:	Rick Beets	prez@rockymountaincorsa.org
Vice President:	Michael Timmons	veep@rockymountaincorsa.org
Secretary:	Rob Brereton	sec@rockymountaincorsa.org
Treasurer:	John Dinsdale	treas@rockymountaincorsa.org
Member at large	Ken Schiffner	m.a.l@rockymountaincorsa.org
Past president	Ed Halpin	

Appointed Chairpersons

Activities Chair:	Caron Wetter	activity@rockymountaincorsa.org
Auditor:	Jonni Berkman	auditor@rockymountaincorsa.org
CCCC Rep:	Rick Beets	cccc-rep@rockymountaincorsa.org
Historian:	Steve Goodman	history@rockymountaincorsa.org
Membership Chair:	Tony Lawler	membership@rockymountaincorsa.org
Newsletter Editor:	Paul Seyforth	news@rockymountaincorsa.org
Webmaster:	Dale Nielsen	webmaster@rockymountaincorsa.org