



VAIRifiable News

Running with the Big Boys!

Steve Hinton finishes 4th among all entries in SCCA race!



In a SCCA autocross event held June 19-20 at the Salem Civic Center, Steve Hinton not only won his class on both days, he also finished 4th overall on both days.

For those of you unfamiliar with a SCCA autocross race, you race an obstacle course against the clock. You normally get 3-4 chances and your best time is the one that counts. There are different classifications so that similar cars run against one another. After all, it wouldn't be fair to have to race your Corvair against the likes of Corvettes, Porsches, Fiats, Subarus, Miatas and BMWs...or would it?

Out of 49 entries, there was only one car in the lineup older than Steve's '66 Yenko. The vast majority of Steve's vanquished competitors were 2000 and up models with one being a new 2020 Corvette! Needless to say, Steve left many owners of expensive modern cars scratching their heads after he left them in his dust!

Normally there are several Corvairs at these events but this time Steve was our lone representative and he did us proud! Thanks Steve for continuing to fly the Corvair flag proudly!

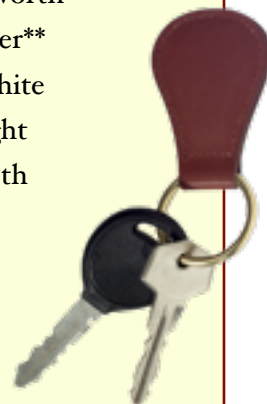
Calendar

July 12: CVCC Meeting, 7pm. Shoney's Restaurant, 10093 Brook Rd, Glen Allen, VA

July Birthdays

8- Edward Barnes
 15- Brandon Waldorf (Whelan)
 16- Andy Weber
 20- Stephen Eldred
 21- Ann Buel
 22- Pat Woodworth**
 22- Jerry Mutter**
 25- Deedra White
 27- Steve Wright
 29- Brooke Loth Birdsong

** Indicates deceased members



WHERE IT ALL BEGAN



ENDURANCE TESTING THE 1962 CORVAIR MONZA

Before there was a Camaro, before there was even a Chevy II or Nova, the Corvair was Chevrolet's sporty compact. In this look back, Drew Hardin tells us about the efforts to turn a 1962 Corvair into a performance powerhouse.

Yes, it was kind of funky looking, and yes, it had an air-cooled engine that was mounted in the "wrong" end of the car, but there were a lot of go-fast goodies offered for the Corvair in its day. Tuners ranging from old-school

hot rodders like Barney Navarro to Chevy dealer/racer Don Yenko all tried their hand at making the Corvair faster through competition.

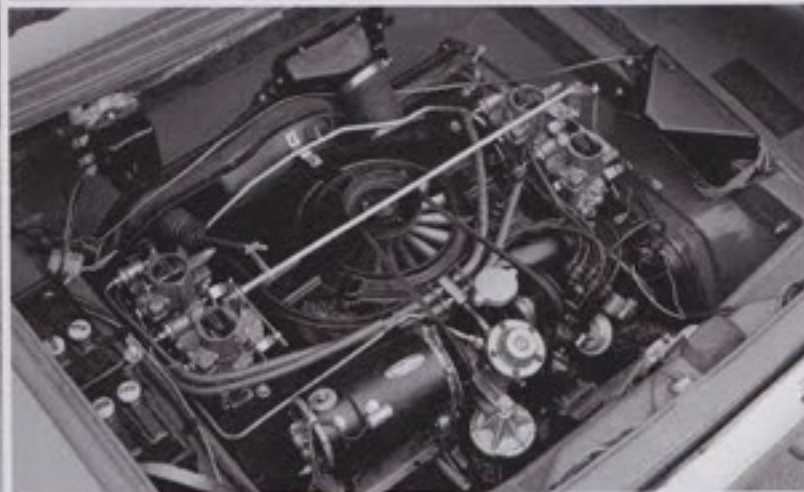
In November 1961, the editors from several Petersen

Publishing magazines, including *HOT ROD*, *MotorTrend*, *Sports Car Graphic*, *Car Craft*, and *Rod & Custom*, gathered at Riverside International Raceway for what *HOT ROD* described as a "24-hour high-speed economy run"

using two bright red '62 Corvairs. It speaks to the power of the Petersen empire that guys named Unser, Gurney, and Shelby were on hand to help shepherd these two little coupes around Riverside's winding 2.7-mile road course for what would be a "grueling 1,549.1-mile ordeal."

Carroll Shelby conducted the test, acting as "sports car racing expert," and in his capacity as the chief of the high-performance driving school he hosted at the track.

Chevy performance guru Bill Thomas prepped the cars. One was left mostly stock, "having only such extra items as were deemed useful for safety," like a Sun



tachometer, Empi front sway bar, Shelby-branded steering wheel, dual Moon fuel tanks (to aid in accurately measuring fuel economy), Goodyear Blue Streak tires, and Lucas driving lights. The second car got those parts too, but was also fitted with Thomas' four-carb induction setup, a Racer Brown camshaft, Hands magnesium racing wheels, sintered metal brake linings, and open exhaust. They're easy to tell apart in the photos by their numbers: 98S for stock, 98M for modified.

"The plan," as HOT ROD described it, "was to allow each driver two hours behind the

wheel, with predetermined averages posted as a target speed for each car and with gasoline consumption and mileage carefully recorded for each hour's tour." Petersen Editorial Director (and head of the NHRA) Wally Parks would start in the modified car, and *Sports Car Graphic* Editor John Christy would take the maiden laps in the stocker.

Things did not go as planned. After just the first hour, while the stock Corvair was "breezing along," the modified Corvair was wounded. Upon inspection, it had developed "a mechanical failure not typical of Corvairs—a loosened key in a timing gear allowed the cam to retard, thus

impairing the engine's previously healthy output." The car was pulled, though "it had already proved its potential, and speculation ran high as to what lap speeds it might have chalked up with Dan Gurney or one of the other scheduled pilots aboard."

The stock car, then, became "the real star of the show." Lap after lap "it steadfastly maintained its speed as the hours passed slowly by," even during an 11-hour rainstorm that "made the track slippery and laden with deep puddles, testing the skill of the drivers and adding to the event's challenge to the Corvair."

At the 24-hour mark, the stocker had run 1,549.1 miles at an average speed of 66.3 mph. Fuel economy was 16.6 mpg, "despite the fact it was driven at speeds varying from 40 mph on some turns to 105 mph on the straightaway." Just one quart of oil was added during the test, and the "stock brakes were as good as new."

In the end, "contestants and observers agreed this was one of the most demanding controlled endurance tests ever encountered by an American stock car, and Corvair won a flock of new admirers as a result."

CORSA MEMBERSHIP PROMOTION

CORSA is now offering 12-Month Virtual memberships for just \$25. Corvair enthusiasts can become members of the Corvair Society of America for a new low price. Join and get all the benefits of CORSA membership:

On line access to the monthly Communique, Members only events, technical information and more- all for about \$2 a month!

Give a gift to a new member at this special price.

Here are the details:

Price: \$25 for twelve months instead of the usual \$37 for online access to CORSA

Eligibility: All new and existing CORSA members.

Offer Period: Now to December 31, 2021.

Effective date for new members: Membership will begin on the date payment is received- register on line

Effective date for existing members. Existing membership will be extended twelve months beginning on the day after membership would otherwise expire.

Important information about the offer:

Offer good for 1 sign up or renewal: Individuals can take advantage of the Offer one time only.

Renewals at this price for one year only.

Offer for membership only - Book with Membership offer only good for new members signing up with a Full Membership.

Offer is only good during this time period. No refunds for prior purchases of membership.

Full Members who purchase this offer or any Virtual Membership have their membership extended and immediately transition to the Virtual membership- which allows for online access to the CORSA Communique.



Sign-Up Today on the CORSA Website! <https://www.corvair.org/index.php/membership/join-or-renew-here>

CVCC MEETING MINUTES, JUNE 8, 2021

Location: Shoney's Restaurant, 10093 Brook Rd, Glen Allen, VA 23060

Attendees: John Porterfield, Alan White, Mike DeJong, David Robertson, Marty Berens, Dianne, Trip & Riley Ramsey, Rucker Posey, Nancy Smith, Wade Lanning

Vair Fair: Roanoke Valley Corvair Club has been re-activated and is willing to host the Vair Fair, however with help from CVCC. The hotel that was to host the 2020 Vair Fair is willing to host the next Vair Fair. David & Katie Clemens of both CVCC and RVCC are willing to chair the event. A decision is needed when to hold the Vair Fair. Options are this coming September, next spring or both. Alan White to send out a questionnaire to find out preferences.

Dues: Dues for club membership to be submitted to CVCC, c/o Chris Carter, 973 Willis Proffitt Rd, Mineral, VA 23117.

Future Activities: Possible ice cream social in Richmond, details to be announced.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 12, at the same Shoney's.



CENTRAL VIRGINIA CORVAIR CLUB

Formed in 1979

Membership Application

Name: _____ Birth Month/day: _____
Birthdays for the month are noted in our newsletter for that month.

Street: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: Home _____ Work or cell (optional) _____

Email Address: _____

Profession: _____

Spouse's Name: _____ Birth Month/day: _____

Children's Names: _____ Birth Month/day: _____
(living @ home)

_____ Birth Month/day: _____

Corvair(s) you own: _____

Corvair skills: _____

Other hobbies: _____

Dues enclosed: **Central Virginia Corvair Club... (\$12/year if you receive newsletter via email, \$17/year if you receive newsletter via mail, add \$3 if you are not a CORSA member)** \$ _____

Corvair Society of America (CORSA) (\$45/yr)** \$ _____

(**Recommended. Do not pro-rate. Not applicable if CORSA member already)

Total enclosed.....\$ _____

CVCC annual dues expire each July 1. Dues are pro-rated at \$1.00 per ***full month*** you belong until the next July. For example, if you join in October, your dues are \$9.00. If you join in February, your dues are \$5.00. **Please make checks payable to Central Virginia Corvair Club**

Mail to: **Central Virginia Corvair Club**

973 Willis Proffitt Road

Mineral, VA 23117

PLEASE PRINT OUT AND GIVE TO ANY INTERESTED PERSON WHO MAY JOIN!



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