




the fifth wheel

AUGUST 2021

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Inside this issue	
LVCC's Next Meeting August 25, 2021	1
Das Awkscht Fescht, by Randy Kohler	2
Warren LeVeque Memorial Day at Pocono	2
LVCC Dues are Due. Pay up!	2
New Fuel Pump Woes, by Bob King	2
Tech Tip. RTV Remover, by Jim Slmpson	7
Classified Ads Parts & Services	7
Guide Pins. Useful Help- ers, by Mike Dawson	8
Local & Regional Events Calendar	9
We'll Meet Here! Oberholzer Pavilion	10
CORSA Officer Contact Information	10
	



Next Meeting: Wednesday August 25 at the Oberholzer Pavilion

The LANTA Center Conference Room iremains off-limits to the public, so for our August meeting, we'll meet at the Oberholzer Pavillion located near the band shell at Macungie Memorial Park, 50 N. Poplar Street, Macungie, PA 18062.

Date & time: Wednesday August 25, 2021 at 7 PM. Rain or shine. It's an open-sided structure so consider bug spray!

The Fifth Wheel is published monthly by Lehigh Valley Corvair Club Inc. (LVCC), a chartered chapter for the Corvair Society of America. We accept articles of interest to Corvair owners for publication. Classified advertising of interest to Corvair owners is available free of charge to all persons. Commercial advertising is also available on a fee basis. For details, email our newsletter editor, Allan Lacki, redbat01@verizon.net.

Das Awkscht Fescht 2021, ***by Randy Kohler***

The 2021 edition of Das Awkscht Fescht is in the books, and it was nice to return to beautiful Macungie Memorial Park after a year's hiatus. The weather was nice all three days, with no rain but plenty of heat and humidity. I always enjoy getting to see friends that I only run into at this show.

The feature cars this year were Cadillac and LaSalle, set up under the tent with a nice display. One interesting Cadillac on display was formerly owned by Betty White, given to her by her husband Allen Ludden of Password game show fame.

At the Saturday event, the cars are parked by AACA classes and Sunday Club Day features 40 different marque car clubs parked in their own areas in which we participate. A new item of interest was a new class on Saturday called "Future Classics" which includes 1998-2022 convertibles, two door coupes and super cars. I am sure they are trying to get some new blood to the event!

We were quite fortunate to retain our usual space behind the ball field, under some trees with lots of room for our cars and club tent. We had 43 of our favorite Corvairs on display on Sunday which included 3 early open, 9 early closed, 13 late open, 12 late closed and 6, yes 6 Rampsides, how cool is that! The majority of owners were from PA with 38 represented, 3 from DE and 2 from NJ.

There was the usual good food, music craft tents and flea market. There was a small car corral closer to the vendors this year. The antique toy show was an outdoor-only event on a lot next to the park because of unavailability of the Eyer School amid Covid concerns.

Saturday's participation award was a rain gauge and Sunday's was a 25 ft tape measure as well as the daily dash plaques. There were fireworks Saturday evening and they were outstanding! I signed the paperwork for next year's event and told them we love our spot!

We once again had a nice assortment of door prizes that were awarded to participants. Many thanks go to Clark's Corvair Parts who always send a "goodie box" with gift certificates, oil filters, valve cover gaskets, a fan belt, catalogs, pens, key rings and T-shirts. Many thanks go to all of the LVCC members who stepped up and brought in all kinds of great stuff to raffle off! A big thank-you goes to Dennis Stamm and Gary Ganssle who parked cars and gave out raffle tickets!

It was a most enjoyable event, and we hope to see you all next year August 5-7, 2022 with British cars and motorcycles as the feature vehicles.

Warren LeVeque Memorial at Pocono

As predicted in the last issue of The Fifth Wheel, the Northeast Corvair Council, Inc. (a.k.a. NECC Motorsports) treated Corvair enthusiasts to a great event at Pocono Raceway on July 31. The day included an all-Corvair car show, parade laps around the track for the show cars, time trials for the racers, and a memorial ceremony for the late great Corvair autocrosser, Warren LeVeque.

LVCC members present included Dennis Stamm, Larry Asheuer, Rich Greene, Bob King, Allan Lacki, Scott

Oberholzer and Bob Weideman. Several PCA members were also there including Al Asheuer, Dave Fox, Paul & Marlene Passini,

LVCC Dues Are Due!

Many of you paid your dues on Sunday at Das Awkscht Fescht this year and we thank you. But for those of you who weren't there, this is a reminder that dues are due again!

Our accounting year is from August 1 to July 31 and so membership dues are due! If you haven't yet paid, send your check to LVCC Secretary- Treasurer DickWeidner at 2304 Main Street, Northampton, PA 18067. Or simply pay in person at our next meeting.

The price of LVCC membership remains very reasonable at \$15 per year, and if you are also a member of the Corvair Society of America, the rate drops even lower to \$10 per year.

New Fuel Pump Woes by Bob King

This is an article about one of the most annoying and reoccurring issues plaguing Corvairs: Fuel Pumps.

My '63 Rampside died on the way back from my daughters' gymnastics training session one Tuesday in July. I had Led Zeppelin up as high as my

Corvair Cars at Das Awkscht Fescht



Left to right: Petrelli, Marvill and Stein



Dale Parkhurst Monza with Baby Moons



William Garrison's candy-apple red '66.



A very pretty all-original 66 Corsa



Left to right: Lewis, Gannslle and Scherzer



Tom Hambel's '63 sedan

Rampsides at Das Awkscht Fescht



John Egerton & Bob King's Rampsides



Wayne Troxell's Rampside



Rampside owned by Wes Heiss



Rich Greene enjoying the shade!



Mike Slotwinski's Rampside



Wes, Angela and their daughters

Warren LeVeque Memorial at Pocono



Dennis Stamm's '65 Monza looking pretty.



Stamm, Sassaman, Lacki, Landers & King



LeVeque family at the memorial ceremony.



Ed "Big Daddy" Roth inspired this Greenbrier.



658 Harley Davidsons during lunch hour.



Rich Greene's car w/ Larry Asheuer, Dave Fox

daughter would permit, courtesy of my zip-drive modern radio.

As we were driving past Carbon Plaza Mall on PA-443, I said to myself, "This is odd. I'm pressing the gas and it's not responding". Funny how loud music can distract you.

Turning off the radio, I realized the Rampside was simply rolling without any power. Luckily, I was on the down-side of a 5% down hill stretch of road, so it was barely losing speed. This gave me a choice of where to "crash land". I pulled into the parking lot by the only car wash in town where I was able to see what's up.

First, I checked the wiring, but all looked well. Next, I pulled the left air cleaner off and pumped the throttle. The carb throat was as dry as the Mohave Desert.

I just replaced the fuel pump on my 67' only 2 weeks before and - lucky for me - I had purchased another spare fuel pump. Actually, I have others but they are NOS units that I prefer to keep in my collection of antiques.

My wife to the rescue. Using our video phones, I was able to show her

where to find the necessary flare nut wrenches, ratcheting box wrenches, vice grips, combination wrenches, rags and the new pump. She located everything I needed, packed them up in her car, and then drove to the car wash where I was waiting with my daughter. Video calls something modern that, in this instance, was actually worth something. That's rare!

Removing the old pump, I immediately saw that the actuator rod was a from a 1960 Corvair; a little long. Then I installed the new pump. To make sure it worked, I hand primed it. It was pumping gas like crazy.

It was then time to tighten things up. I pushed the pump all the way down in its socket and then lifted it back up about a quarter of an inch. I could not find the centering hole for the bolt.

So, out comes the pump. I look for the centering hole and guess what? There is none. The boss inside the bore that gives more meat for set screw is there but no hole drilled.

Check out the pictures. At the right, you'll see a stock AC fuel pump. Then, from right to left, you'll see pumps sold by Clarks and Advance

Auto Parts stores. And then there's the new one with no hole. It's missing.

The centering hole determines the stroke of the diaphragm. What a joke to leave such an important thing undone.

Am I surprised? Absolutely positively not. I realize it's difficult to design a brand new product. But in this case, the engineers could not even copy an existing, functional part that had been



in production for decades. Instead, they released something that could cause a fire and kill someone.

In the photos, you can see a slight indentation where my common-sense side-of-the-road estimation said the set screw should be. (It was off by maybe 1/8"). After making the road-side repair, I went home and removed the pump. After making the necessary measurements, I ground an indentation where the centering hole should be. Rather than drill it all the way through, I left the indentation blind, which is perfectly sufficient for securing the fuel pump to the housing. Voilà! It's back to normal.

Why do we have to do these things? Half of Corvair owners don't have a drill press, bench grinders, counter sinks, and the basic machinist skills necessary to use them.

Be warned - along with another member's article about the spring pressure being too high - here is yet another issue. By the way, the old pump did not leak. It just failed. It must have been a worn check valve.

Tech Tips by Jim Simpson

You know how hard it is to remove RTV (silicone) gasket sealer –the flexible “rubber” stuff. Well, it turns out that there's a solution. Permatex RTV Silicone Dissolver, part number 80652.

According to the product description, “This patented gel formula dissolves and completely removes RTV silicone residue in only a matter of minutes... letting the powerful chemical do the work for you. No grinding required. It's also safe for use on aluminum and other surfaces such [as] metal or plastic.” Sounds like great stuff to have in your toolbox.

It comes in a 2.7 oz. tube and is supposed to work on all Permatex silicones including the “Right Stuff”, “Ultra series” and other RTV products. One disclaimer, I have never used it so I can't vouch for its effectiveness. But Permatex is a good brand name and since they manufacture literally tens of thousands of tons of RTV products a

year, they should know what they're doing.

Apparently, it's a bit hard to find. The on-line site listed by Permatex (RockAuto) shows it as being out of stock at present. I did find it at CARiD (www.carid.com) for \$5.01 but their shipping is exorbitant--\$13!



Classified Ads

Update: Lyndon Shade informed us that both of the Corvairs owned by his late father, Paul Shade, have been sold to a buyer in Texas. One was an all-original 1960 and the other was a 1965 convertible. Paul was a long-time member of the Lehigh Valley Corvair Club.

For Sale: New Parts: Brakes hoses, air filters, oil filters, tune-up parts, brake shoes, shocks, tail light lenses, gaskets, plugs, cables, choke pull offs, electrical switches, gas filters, caps, backup switches, suspension parts, engine bearings, valves, emblems, exhaust, turbo parts, patch panels, early bezels, head studs, 140 exhaust extractors, Y pipes, mufflers, fuzzies, clutch cables, lower bracket, heim joints, models, magazines, CORSA magazines, Hot Wheels, Racing Champions cars and much, much more. Contact Larry for pricing. **Used Parts:** Too many to list. Larry Asheuer Call 267-994-1569 or email: a-lcorvair@msn.com

For Sale: NEW! Now offering Corvair head work. Valve-seat grinding, Pro Flow grinding/ polishing, cleaning-cutting head gasket surfaces, de-flashing, thread repair. (I have measurement equip to confirm correct gasket surface depths). HV carb rebuilding. Top engine cover modifications for one gasket, no more leaks! Sound proofing interiors, gas tank replacements, as well as rear and front axle bearing units. Late rears in stock! Bob King kcorvair@ptd.net or text/call to 610-442-2873.

Suspension Services: I have over 45 years of suspension experience and I'm extremely experienced with the Corvair suspension systems as well as all other makes of vintage cars. I also have a computerized alignment system here so all repairs can remain in house. Now that I'm retired, I have more available time to repair these great cars. I can be reached at 267-424-4911 .Jeff Marvill, Perkasio, PA

Guide Pins: Simple But Useful Helpers

This article, written by Mike Dawson, is from the August 2021 issue of "VairCor", the official newsletter of the Heart of America Corvair Owners Association.

There are two sizes that are most useful, 5/16-18 and 3/8-16. You can use long shank bolts or threaded rods (easiest to adapt to all situations), and after cutting them to length, saw screwdriver slots in the ends.



There are some thin sections in the alt/gen gasket which can be torn or misaligned; use of the 5/16 pins makes that almost impossible to occur.



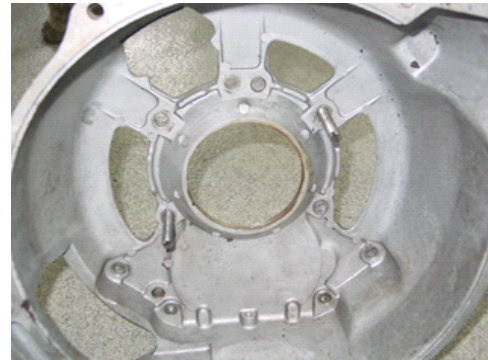
Attaching the transaxle to the bellhousing is greatly aided with use of pins, the left pin in the picture would be threaded into the differential. I found the extra-long one useful on the right side.



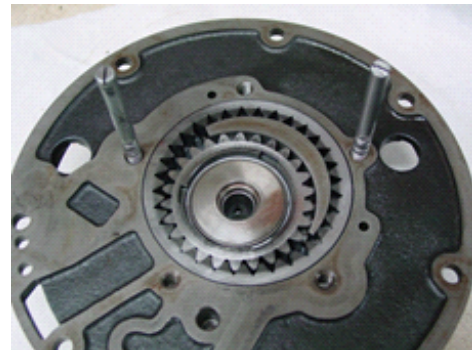
Lining up two gaskets, the baffle and the top cover utilizes the 5/16 pins to good advantage, since the holes are not symmetrical from side to side.



Although there are two small guide pins in the clutch/ converter housing, longer guides are helpful when attaching the housing to the engine crankcase.



If you do Powerglides, use of the 5/16 pins is required to install the rear pump and is useful when installing the front pump.



You could also use the 5/16 pins to install a Powerglide pan, any differential top cover and you could make some 1/4-20 pins for oil pans. Anything to help keep it fun!



Calendar of Events

Interested in doing a cruise night? Go to <https://cruisefinder.com/> It's easy to use and lists more cruise events than we could possibly fit in this newsletter!

Regular Car Shows:

Saturday August 14, 2021. 31st Annual First State Corvair Club Car Show. Location: Limestone Presbyterian Church, 3201 Limestone Road, Wilmington, DE. 19808. Time: 9 AM to 3 PM. Price: \$20 per car. There will be a small hospitality outside with some goodies and water to drink. We will, again, offer some subs for lunch. Patsy Ziegler, (302) 737-3577, (302) 521-8153 cell, pziegler@udel.edu

Friday to Sunday, August 27 to 29, 2021. Wheels of Time Annual Rod & Custom Car Jamboree. Location: Macungie Memorial Park, 50 N Poplar St, Macungie, PA 18062. Pre-registration is now closed. The price was \$45. On-site registration may be open subject to availability of parking spaces. Time: 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM on Fri., 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM on Saturday, and 8:00 AM to noon on Sunday. Event is for Rods and Customs 1990 and older. Vehicles must be street legal with proof of insurance. For information about registration, contact Rich Barral, (610) 797-6159, rich68bigblock@gmail.com

Saturday September 4, 2021. 55th Annual Duryea Day Show. Location: Boyertown Community Park, 419 South Madison Street, Boyertown, PA 19512. Time: 9am-2pm. Price: Registration by August 27, 2021 - \$12. Day of show registration - \$20. Email: mail@boyertownmuseum.org. Phone: (610) 367-2090. <https://boyertownmuseum.org/>

Saturday September 11, 2021. Fiberglass and Steel Corvette & All GM Show. Location: Mueser Park, Northampton Street, Easton, PA. Time: 8:30 to 2:30 PM. Judged show with over 50 trophies. 50-50, door prizes, rest rooms, food, music. www.allentowncorvetteclub.org

Saturday September 11, 2021. Gasket Goons Hot Rod Bash 2021. Location: Silver Creek Athletic Association Park, 2943 Rt. 212 Springtown Pa 18081. G.P.S. Hellertown PA 18055. Time: 8 AM to 6 PM. Price: \$10 per person. Open to 1969 and older cars and trucks. Bands, beer, pin up contest, bicycle show, valve cover racing, large swap meet, DJ, pin stripping, 50/50, food, and more. <https://www.facebook.com/gasket.goonspa/>

Saturday September 18, 2021. 42nd Annual CPCC Corvair Day at Eastern Museum of Motor Racing (EMMR). Location: 9am-3pm, 100 Baltimore Road, York Springs, PA 17372, Use GPS address for Latimore Valley Fairgrounds (which is part of EMMR) 314 Latimore Valley Road, York Springs, PA 17372. Time: 9 AM to 3 PM. Rain or shine. Price per car: \$15 day-of. Event will feature: Bake Sale, 50/50 drawing, door prizes, and dash plaques. Food available to purchase: Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Drinks, and much more. Bake sale. Free Indoor/Outdoor Vendor set-up available.

Sunday September 19, 2021. 36th Annual Anthracite Region AACA Show. Location: Tri-County Little League Field, Grove & Hancock Streets, McAdoo, PA. Time: 8 AM to 3 PM. Rain or shine. Price for each show car and flea market space: \$15 day of show. Pre-registration available for a slight discount. Dash plaques to the first 200 registered vehicles. Open to all antiques, classics, street rods, rat rods, modifieds, street machines, trucks, customs and muscle cars. Music by the Legends Oldies Band. Food & drinks of course. Contact Joe Forish (570) 929-2017.

Sunday September 26, 2021. 46th Annual Meet for All General Motors Cars. Location: Padre Pio Shrine, 111 Barto Road, Barto, PA 19504. Time: 8:30 AM to 3 PM. Rain or shine. Price: Preregister - \$15 per vehicle. Day of show - \$20. Trophies awarded to the best in show and runner-up for each GM brand. Sponsor: Keystone State Chapter, Pontiac Oakland Club International. For info, call Tom Wright at (610) 587-3468 or tommyjw22@yahoo.com or Sandy Kemp (610) 367-6664.

Sunday October 31, 2021. Old Car Show with Outdoor Flea Market. Location: Phifer's Ice Dams, 880 Main Road, Lehigh-ton, PA. (Formerly held at Kempton, PA). Time: 8 AM to 2:30 PM. Rain, shine or snow! Accepting all cars trucks and motorcycles to 1998. Dash plaques to first 150 cars. Day of show prices: \$12 per show car. \$13 per car for car corral. 20 feet of flea market frontage available for \$12. Conducted by the Free Spirit Chapter of the Buick Club of America. Contact Sandy Getz (610) 377-6130. www.buickfreespirit.org

We'll Meet Here!



For our August meeting, we'll meet here again: Oberholzer Pavillion located near the band shell at Macungie Memorial Park, 50 N. Poplar Street, Macungie, PA 18062. Date & time: Wednesday June 23, 2021 at 7 PM. Rain or shine. It's an open-sided structure so consider bug spray!

Map Legend

- 1 - Stichter Pavilion
- 2 - Lions Pavilion
- 3 - Oberholzer Pavilion
- 4 - Quaking Aspen Pavilion / Refreshment Stand
- 5 - Weeping Willow Pavilion
- 6 - White Oak Pavilion
- 7 - Schaffer - Wendling Pavilion
- 8 - Memorial Hall - Main Building
- Wieder Gazebo
- Information Booth
- Memorial
- Playground
- Band Shell
- Baseball Field
- Tennis Court
- Volleyball Court
- Basketball Court
- Restrooms
- Private homes



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 (413)625-9776 www.corvair.com email: clarks@corvair.com

LVCC Officers

President: Dennis Stamm Phone: (610) 926-4723 Email: dmstamm@comcast.net
 Vice Pres: Fred Scherzer Phone: (484) 948-5142 Email: jukeboxman44@gmail.com
 Secretary / Treasurer: Richard Weidner. Phone: (610) 502-1414 Email: anythingvair@yahoo.com,
 Newsletter & Website Editor: Allan Lacki. Phone: (610) 927-1583 Email: redbat01@verizon.net

