



the fifth wheel

October 2023

[HTTP://WWW.CORVAIR.ORG/CHAPTERS/LVCC](http://www.corvair.org/chapters/lvcc)

ESTABLISHED 1976

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Next Meeting: October 21, 2023
3rd Saturday of the month



Time: 10 AM
Place: America On Wheels
5 North Front Street
Allentown, PA

The Fifth Wheel is published monthly by Lehigh Valley Corvair Club Inc. (LVCC), a chapter of 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.

CPCC Corvair Day!



On Saturday September 16, seven members of the Lehigh Valley Corvair Club attended the Central Pennsylvania Corvair Club's "Corvair Day" at the Eastern Museum of Motor Racing in York Springs, PA. They were Lawrence Asheuer, John Egerton and wife Barbara, Allan Lacki, Bob Marlow and wife Sue, Scott Oberholzer, Connor Stamm, and Dennis Stamm Sr.

Raymond Coker of the New Jersey club noted, "Whoever planned this event well in advance must be "living a clean life" because you could not have asked for a better day.

The sky was blue with nary a cloud and the temperature was suitable for short or long pants as well as short sleeve shirts or long sleeve shirts. It was bea-uti-ful!"

35 Corvairs of all types were on exhibit on the show field. Inside the museum, dozens of oval-track racers with vintages ranging from year 1910 to the 1980s were on display.

The registration fee was \$15 per car and included free admission to the museum, generous door prizes and plenty of trophies. All of the LVCC guys who displayed Corvairs received one during the awards ceremony.

It's always a pleasure to support our neighboring Corvair club to the west and we hope to be there again next year!

September Meeting Minutes

MINUTES

Lehigh Valley Corvair Club Membership Meeting
September 23, 2023
America On Wheels Museum
Allentown, PA

President Allan Lacki called the meeting to order at 10:01 am. In attendance were Ryan Cengeri, Bill Dittrich Sr., Bill D. Dittrich, Greg Dittrich, Rich Greene, Walter Ingles, Allan Lacki, Bob Marlow, Paul Pagoda, Dave Smullen, Jeff Strausser, and Bob Weideman.

There were no meeting minutes to report, due to the prior meeting being only a casual gathering during the annual Das Awkscht Fescht car show on August 6.

The Treasurer's Report reflected a current balance of \$1,850.76, principally on the strength of recent membership renewals and prior undeposited funds now on deposit.

Old Business:

It was reported that membership stands at 31, with an additional six honorary/lifetime members. Recent new member Paul Pagoda was introduced, and new member Ryan Cengeri joined the club immediately before the meeting. Bob Weideman renewed his membership during the meeting, bringing the current membership total to 33.

New Business:

Allan Lacki gave a recap of the prior weekend's "Corvair Day" meet, conducted by the Central Pennsylvania Corvair Club at the Eastern Museum of Motor Racing in York Springs. Eight LVCC members attended, including John and Barbara Egerton, Allan Lacki, Bob and Sue Marlow, Scott Oberholzer, Connor Stamm, and Dennis Stamm Sr.

Allan also noted that he had received a call from a gentleman who described himself as a "VW guy," with a Corvair-power dune buggy for sale. It is believed that this is a far-from-complete buggy. Allan has the phone number for those who may be interested.

It was noted also that the AOW Museum will be closed during January and February, so an alternate meeting location or locations is sought for those months.

Informal discussions took place on the topic of Jeff Strausser's planned wintertime rebuild of his Corvair's Powerglide transmission, Allan Lacki's puzzling turn signal & brake light problems, vinyl wraps, sand blasting and powder coating, a Paxton supercharger, a possible Fall foliage tour, and the Slate Belt Rotary Car Show on October 14.

The meeting was formally adjourned at 11:10 am.

Respectfully submitted, Bob Marlow, Secretary



LVCC at Corvair Day. People, Cars & Parts!



Connor Stamm brought his Corvair 500 sedan. The fellow in the passenger seat is Connor's buddy Andrew Foscone.



Dennis Stamm Sr. put wife Marianne's beautiful '65 Monza coupe on display.



Larry Ascheuer was there with plenty of parts to sell! The guy in the background is Corvair racer Dave Edsinger.



Bob Marlow also set up shop with an assortment of Covair parts to sell..



John Egerton is unloading the bed of his Rampside while Barbara, Dave Edsinger and Larry Ascheuer look on.



Here is LVCC VP John Egerton and Larry Ascheuer. Dave Edsinger in the background.

LVCC Treasury Report

by Joan Lacki

Beginning Balance: August 31, 2023		\$1,850.76
Receipts:		
9/26/23 Deposit: Memberships	\$65.00	
Total Receipts		\$65.00
Expenses:		
Newsletter Expense	(\$21.16)	
Refund dues overpayment	(\$5.00)	
Total Expenses		(\$26.16)
Ending Balance: September 30, 2023		\$1,889.60

Notes: Newsletter expenses shown here were incurred by Allan Lacki for the August and September issues of the Fifth Wheel. We also sent a check to Wayne Troxell because he overpaid his membership dues by five dollars.

Election of Officers!

It may be hard to believe, but the annual process for the election of officers is upon us once again. Here is what the LVCC Constitution and Bylaws have to say about that! (You can read the entire document online at <https://tinyurl.com/mrxmerw7>).

Article II Officers

Sec. 1, The elected officers of this club shall be a president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer, the latter which may be a combined post (secretary-treasurer). The term of office, for each of the above shall be one year, or until their successors are elected.

Sec. 2, LVCC shall have a board of directors. The members of the board shall consist of the elected officers.

Article III Election of Officers

Sec. 1, Candidates for office shall be nominated at the September meeting and elected at the October meeting by ballot (on which there shall be a blank space for write in votes for each office).

Sec. 2, The newsletter editor shall make up a ballot to be mailed out with the next newsletter.

Sec. 3, Each member shall mark his ballot, and bring it along to the October meeting, or mail it to the secretary before the October meeting.

Sec. 4, The president shall appoint at least two tellers present at the October meeting to count the ballots and report the results of the election to the members. A majority of votes cast shall be necessary for a choice.

Sec. 5, Vacancies for any cause shall be filled by a vote of the members present at the next regular meeting of the club, said officer to serve unexpired term.

Sec. 6, In case of a tie vote, the members present at the next regular LVCC meeting will re-vote to break the tie.

As a practical matter, I suggest that we move the process forward one month. In other words, we'll have open nominations during our October meeting, publish the ballot in our November newsletter, with voting take place during our November meeting. Allan Lacki

Birth of the Turbo-Air,

by Eva McGuire

The story of the Corvair Turbo-Air engine began as early as 1952 when Ed Cole (then Chief Engineer at Chevrolet) wanted to create a small compact economy car with an aluminum engine that would make a lightweight vehicle.

Choosing aluminum would be a costly decision over cast iron as GM didn't have access to an aluminum plant with sufficient capacity to accommodate this need. Consequently, GM made a deal in 1956 with Reynolds Metals Company to build and operate a new aluminum reduction plant in Massena, New York, just for GM.

Ground was broken on June 14, 1957 for the Reynolds Metals Company St. Lawrence Reduction Plant at Messena. Reynolds chose the location because of the abundant supply of competitively-priced hydropower. The plant's construction cost is estimated at \$88 million.

Beginning July 9, 1959, Reynolds delivered raw molten aluminum in cauldrons hauled by over-the-road trucks from its St. Lawrence Reduction Plant to GM's Massena Castings Plant which was built nearby at the roughly the same time. The Massena Castings Plant was where the molten aluminum was cast into blocks, heads, flywheel housings, crankcase covers, clutch housings and pistons for the Chevrolet Turbo-Air engine.

From there, the castings were shipped from Massena to GM's

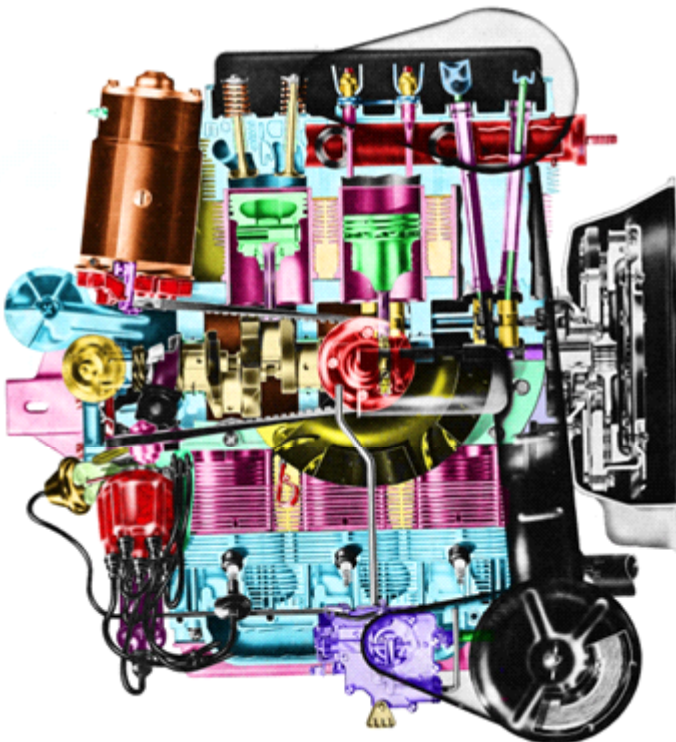
Tonawanda Engine Plant in Buffalo where Corvair engines were assembled. The first production parts began rolling off the line in April, 1959. Soon, Tonawanda began to manufacture complete Corvair engines at the rate of seventy per hour – just a month before the very first Corvair car was assembled on the pilot line. Talk about a time crunch!

The first Corvair was hand assembled at the Willow Run Assembly Plant in Ypsilanti, Michigan by Cecil Cole (no relation to Ed Cole) beginning on May 20th, 1959, with the first production car rolling off the assembly line on July 7, 1959. The Corvair was officially introduced to the public on October 2, 1959.

In the end, the Corvair's air-cooled engine was reputed to be more expensive to make than any other engine in Chevrolet's line-up except for the limited-production aluminum block 427 V8. GM spent 19 million dollars just to manufacture the engine parts for Corvair which would be \$198,570,892.00 today!!!

Corvair engine fun facts: Ed Cole's inspiration and influence to develop the Corvair engine was partly based on his own personal pursuits of being a private airplane pilot during the early 1950's where he logged many hours on a Continental powered small aircraft.

During this same time frame, he was working on military projects as Senior Engineer at Cadillac in 1950 and assigned to make a light weight military tank that would involve a Continental horizontally opposed flat-six engine. These engines made a great impression on him that would set the stage when the time came for



Mr. Cole to have the final say on what power unit would be chosen for the light weight compact Corvair vehicle.

All Corvair engines were assembled at the Tonawanda Engine Plant, and that is why you will see the letter "T" stamped on your engine. The month and date manufactured will follow that letter "T" followed with a one, two, or three letter code (like YC, ZF, RH to signify type of engine, horsepower, whether it's a Powerglide or manual, etc. To understand the breakdown on Corvair engine codes, go to <https://www.tpocr.com/corvairec.html>

About the author:

Eva McGuire is Historian, Publicist and #GMAuthority Liaison for the Corvair Preservation Foundation

Additional Sources:

- Regarding Alcoa: National Aluminum Production Heritage Association.
- Regarding GM Massena Castings & Tonawanda manufacturing plants: Wikipedia

Using the Membership Roster

By popular demand, an up-to-date copy of the LVCC membership roster is included in this edition of *The Fifth Wheel*. It is solely for the use of you - our members - and not for anybody else. If you would like to provide copies of this newsletter to people outside the club, please notify me and I'll provide a copy for you without the membership roster.

From time to time, your editor posts copies of our newsletters on the LVCC website. As in the past, the membership roster will be removed before any such posting is made.

Grace Period Is Over


At the end of October, we'll be clearing the decks, meaning that, if you haven't paid your dues by then, this will be your last newsletter until you do!

Don't let this happen! If you haven't already done so, fill out the renewal form on page 10 and mail it with your check to Lehigh Valley Corvair Club, PO Box 33, Orefield, PA 18069! Or you can save a postage stamp by handing it over at our next meeting, on October 21st.

For those of you who have already paid, bless you! We thank you immensely!

Your President, Big Al.

LVCC Member Greg Dittrich's Car Show - October 14th


SLATE BELT ROTARY


CAR SHOW

Saturday October 14, 2023 (Rain Date Sunday October 15, 2023)

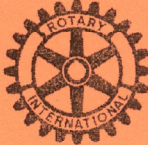


**BATMOBILE
& KITT
WILL BE THERE!**

WIND GAP BOROUGH PARK
334 S Lehigh Ave
Wind Gap, PA 18091

REGISTRATION: 9am - 11am
VOTING: 12 noon - 12:30pm
AWARDS: 2pm

PROCEEDS BENEFIT:
OPERATION WARM
((COATS FOR KIDS))



GREAT FOOD - OLD FASHIONED CAKE WALK - TROPHIES

Dash plaques awarded to first 125 entries - Complimentary coffee & donuts while supplies last

ENTRY FORM


<p>NAME:</p> <hr/> <p>ADDRESS:</p> <hr/> <p>PHONE:</p> <hr/> <p>EMAIL:</p> <hr/> <p>VEHICLE MAKE/MODEL/YEAR:</p> <hr/>	<p style="text-align: center;">CLASSES:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Please Note: "Original" classes are for unmodified/lightly modified vehicles</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Please circle one category only:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>ORIGINAL PRE-1943</p> <p>ORIGINAL 1944-1954</p> <p>ORIGINAL 1955-1959</p> <p>ORIGINAL 1960-1969</p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>ORIGINAL 1970-1979</p> <p>ORIGINAL 1980-1989</p> <p>ORIGINAL 1990-1999</p> <p>ORIGINAL 2000+</p> </td> </tr> </table> <p>STREET MACHINE/HOT ROD PRE 1960</p> <p>STREET MACHINE/HOT ROD 1960-1969</p> <p>STREET MACHINE/HOT ROD 1970-1990</p> <p>MODIFIED - 1990+</p> <p>MODIFIED TRUCK</p> <p>FOREIGN</p> <p>MISCELLANEOUS</p>	<p>ORIGINAL PRE-1943</p> <p>ORIGINAL 1944-1954</p> <p>ORIGINAL 1955-1959</p> <p>ORIGINAL 1960-1969</p>	<p>ORIGINAL 1970-1979</p> <p>ORIGINAL 1980-1989</p> <p>ORIGINAL 1990-1999</p> <p>ORIGINAL 2000+</p>
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\$15 REGISTRATION (\$20 AT DOOR)

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

ROTARY CLUB OF THE SLATE BELT
c/o Scorecard Sports Bar & Grill
130 N Broadway
Wind Gap, PA 18091

VENMO ACCEPTED
EMAIL FORM TO (VENMO ONLY):
valerie.noble2@icloud.com



venmo

Scan this code to pay

LVCC Membership Roster

Special Issue for Public Distribution.

The LVCC Membership Roster has been removed from this copy of the our Fifth Wheel newsletter to protect the privacy of our members.

Use this copy if you intend to distribute our newsletter to anyone outside the LVCC organization.



Calendar of Events

LVCC-Sanctioned Events denoted with a check mark like this: ✓

Sunday October 8, 2023 A&T Chevrolet-Subaru 2023 Celebration of Cars

Location: A&T Chevrolet-Subaru, 801 Bethlehem Pike, Sellersville, PA USA. Time: 9 AM to 1 PM. Price: \$15 per show car. You can register online up until 11:59 p.m. Saturday, October 7 or register in person the morning of the Show. If you are registering on Show Day, please arrive before 10:00 a.m. Open to ALL makes and models from across the decades. DJ, food, ax-throwing. Adoptable dogs from Dog Town Rescue - will be present at the Show so you can learn more about them. <https://atautos.com/>

✓ Saturday October 14, 2023. Slate Belt Rotary Car Show

Location: Wind Gap Borough Park, 334 S. Lehigh Avenue, Wind Gap PA 18901. Time: 9 AM to 2 PM. Rain date: October 15. Day of show price: \$20 per show car. Complimentary coffee & donuts while supplies last. Food. Old-fashioned cake walk. Trophies. Judging. 15 classes (No Corvair class). Contact: LVCC Member Greg Dittrich gdittrich1@gmail.com <https://slatebeltrotary.org/>

Sunday October 15, 2023 Horsepower and Horses Car Show

Location: 860 Hill Church Rd, Oley, PA 19547. Time: 9 AM to 3 PM. Price: \$20 per show car day of show. See some great cars and horses!!! Kitchen open. Basket raffle. Awards for 18 separate classes (no Corvair class). Proceeds go to the Glendale Western Interscholastic Equestrian Association Team.

Saturday, October 21, 2023 Bristol Day Car Show

Location: Snyder – Girotti Elementary/Middle School, 450 Beaver Street, Bristol PA 19007. Rain or shine. Price: \$15 per show car day of show. Open to all American & foreign antiques, classics and special interest cars. Show on the blacktop. Indoor restrooms. Food & seating. This is a small neighborhood show that drew 40 cars last year.

Sunday October 29, 2023 47th Annual Car Show & Outdoor Flea Market

Location: Phifer's Ice Dams, 880 Main Road, Lehigh, PA. Time 9 AM to 3 PM. Rain, shine or snow. Day of show price: \$20 per show car. Accepting all cars, trucks and motorcycles. Judging (no Corvair class). Conducted by the Free Spirit Chapter of the Buick Club of America. <https://www.buickfreespirit.org/>

Sunday November 5, 2023. Riegelsville Fall Roll-Out

Location: Reigelsville Ball Park, PA Route 611, Reigelsville, PA. Rain or Shine. Time: 7 AM to 2 PM. Price: No entry or registration fee for show cars. Spectator Donation: \$5 per person. Children 12 and under are FREE. No vehicles newer than 1998. Exhibitors entry begins at 7am People's Choice Trophy Awards. Flee market. No pets or bicycles. https://riegelsville.org/?page_id=600

LVCC Classified Ads

A&L Corvair Parts: 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: alcorvair@msn.com

Sky King Automotive Services: 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 kcovair@ptd.net or text/call to 610-442-2873.

We Meet Here!



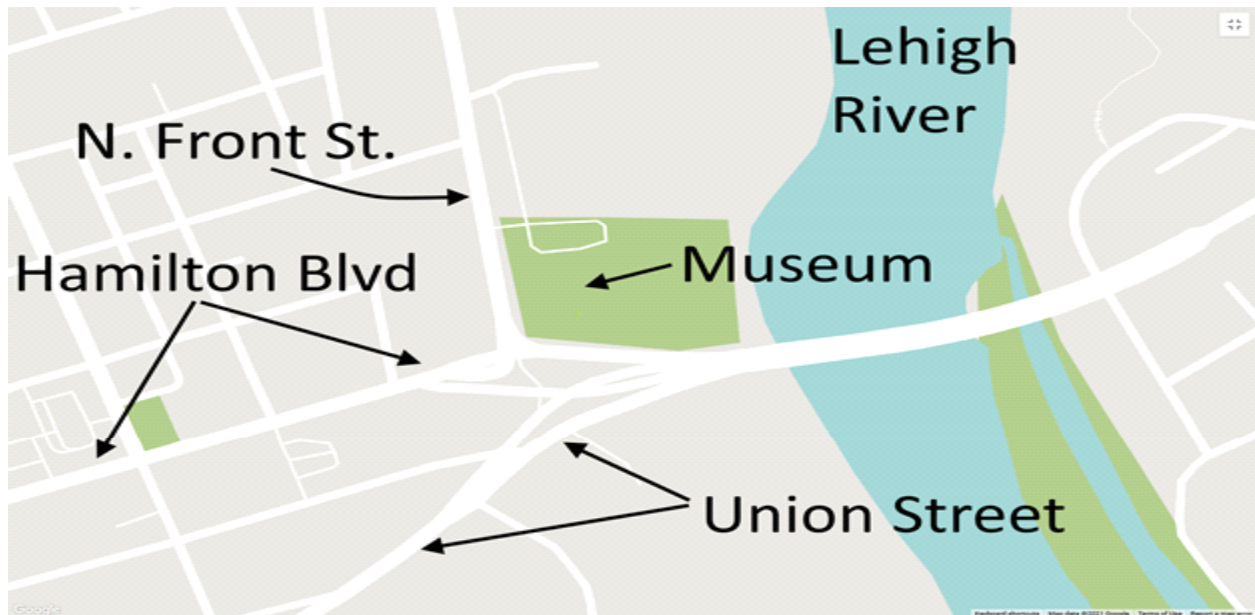
Next Meeting Date: **Saturday October 21, 2023**

Start Time: 10 AM

Place: America On Wheels Museum

5 North Front Street

Allentown, PA 18102



Clark's Corvair Parts® Our 50th Anniversary - 2023



SPECIAL SALES EVERY MONTH- each month we'll send an email (if you have signed up) and list in a sale section on our Home page www.corvair.com **FREE 50th MEMENTO gifts with your first order in 2023**

Clark's Corvair Parts® 400 Mohawk Trail, Shelburne Falls, MA 01370 (413) 625-9776 www.corvair.com email: clarks@corvair.com **CATALOG-** over 450 pages, free with an order, \$8 postpaid in USA

LVCC Officers

President & Newsletter Editor: Allan Lacki Phone: (610) 927-1583 Email: redbat01@verizon.net

Vice Pres: John Egerton Phone: (610) 217-0514 Email: jegerton@ptd.net

Secretary: Robert Marlow Phone: (201) 444-1859 Email: rmarlow4040@gmail.com

Treasurer: Joan Lacki Phone: (610) 927-1583 Email: joantlacki@verizon.net



**Lehigh Valley Corvair Club***c/o Joan Lacki, Treasurer**PO Box 33**Orefield, PA 18069*☐ New Membership or ☐ Renewal☐ Individual or ☐ Family***Family Membership includes two adults and all children under age 21 living at a single address.*

Date _____

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Name of 2nd Adult Family Member _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____

Email _____

Our monthly newsletter and other updates are delivered via e-mail. Printed materials are mailed periodically, as needed. We do not share our mailing lists with others.

LVCC membership dues are payable as follows:

☐ One Year Membership, New or Renewal..... \$20.00☐ Two Year Membership, New or Renewal..... \$35.00Membership expires on July 31st

Total Remitted: \$ _____

Please make your check or money order payable to LVCC Inc. and mail this completed form and payment to the address above or deliver it to the Treasurer at any club event. You should receive your first newsletter within four weeks of our receiving your application.

LVCC encourages all members to join CORSA, the Corvair Society of America, P.O. Box 68, Maple Plain, Minnesota 55359 USA. Email: messages@corvair.org. Phone: (630) 403-5010

Tell us about yourself and your Corvairs

Your Corvairs (year, model, color, equipment, condition etc.) _____

Your other cars and trucks _____

Your other hobbies and interests _____

When and why did you first buy a Corvair? _____

Anything else you'd like to tell us _____

<http://www.corvair.org/chapters/lvcc>