

An Award!

Once upon a time: a very long time ago. A GrenBrier full of novice CORVAIRists drove out to Waverly (I think) to help a member work on his Differential. We were young and dumb – for sure! We took (I think it was Warren Walsh's) Differential apart in a shed that had straw all over – might have been a chicken coop. If we had been drinking that might have been an excuse but we were all stone cold sober and dumb as mud. We didn't have a shop manual and the nose cone was broken so we had to take everything out of the Diff, as that is the first part that goes in, to a Diff. He had a replacement (probably not a new one but a 'good' one at least) - - there may not have been a Clark's catalog at that time – even. In those days we were picking up CORVAIRs for \$20, that ran, and smoked!

Of course, nobody had a Press at that time – Maybe Louis Van Kuiken but he wasn't dumb enough to be with this crowd. The cone's stub came out with a hammer, pushing the Race ahead of it. When it came time to get the bearing Race shoved into the casting to hold the nose cone in place – we could see that it wasn't in all the way and we couldn't figure how to do it. The Race is about three inches in diameter with its pristine rolling surface facing us so we knew a hammer wasn't going to be allowed.

There was a dirty old used Baseball Bat lying in that shed. I took hold of that Bat and used the big end of it to pound the race tightly in against the nose cone. We were all there pushing and shoving and having a "Gay old time" getting Warren's Diff back together. (Yes, we could say 'GAY old time' in those days.)

I have no idea if we were successful in the repair of the Diff, but some time later – when most of the hee-haw had died down, I was presented with an AWARD during one of our NCCA (North Central Corvair Association) meetings. The Pres was very serious and asked me to come forward to receive this award. I'm not sure who had a lathe that could turn small stuff like this but here's a photo of the official Award presented to me, that I have kept, for more than a few Decades.

