



# Leaky Seal

*Corvair*

**October 2025**



Corvair Minnesota Newsletter

## *President's message*

Fall is here, the leaves are turning colors and it's a time of change. This past month we lost long time CMI member Jerry Berge. We appreciated the active member Jerry was in the club having held positions that included secretary and Vice President. Many are familiar in particular with Jerry's "Flatbed Fred".

For those interested, a memorial service will be 11 AM, Tuesday, October 7, 2025 at Long Lake Lutheran Church in Isanti MN. Visitation one hour prior to the service at church.

The year continues to speed by and there are a couple club events remaining for this year:

- **October 4th:** Our annual CMI Fall Breakfast
  - Note: RSVP deadline was September 30th
- **October 11th:** The Frankensteiners Car Show
  - For members pre-registered we will meet in the MinnCo Bank parking lot at 6am

Plan ahead- November brings Club elections. We are still looking for nominees across the board with an open Vice President role. Please reach out to Amber if you have an interest or nominee for any positions. Below are the positions that are up for election and the current candidates:

- President: Dave Pedersen
- Vice President: Open
- Director: Tom Quinn

**\*\*\*Please note:** We are also still in need of someone to fill the remaining Activities Director position responsibilities through Dec 2026. If you're willing to help please reach out to myself, Paul, Tom or Jim Becker.

The next monthly meeting is Tuesday, October 14th

- Board meeting at 5pm
- Food and beverage is available from 5:30 to 6:30
- Meeting starts at 7pm.

See you at our next meeting.

*Dave Pedersen*

CMI President



## CMI Meeting Minutes

September 9, 2025

President **Pedersen** called the meeting to order at 7pm!

Members in attendance: 20

1 Early Model Corvair

**David** read the creed!

**Gail** read the birthdays for the month!

Past Events:

Now Then Threshing show got cancelled for Saturday due to weather. Sunday the event resumed.

Wheels and Wings in Osceola rained out until approximately 1:15. There were plenty of people and planes in attendance.

Classics by the Lake in Buffalo. **Paul Schuler** stated that there were 6 Corvairs in attendance.

**Jim Brandberg** went over the visit with **Jerry Berge**. This was an impromptu event that **Cody Berge** requested. 5 Corvair members showed up. Jerry is in home hospice at this time.

*[Please note that Jerry has passed; his obituary was sent out separately with service details – ed.]*

Upcoming Events:

CMI Breakfast on October 4th. Fall breakfast they will be accepting food donations for the food shelf.

Frankensteiner: Saturday, October 11th. Meet @ 6:00 - 6:15 @ the Minnoco.

Elections are coming up in **November**. Remember to make your vote count, you need to be in attendance. Positions that are up for election is President, Vice President, as well as **Quinn's** position of Director.

There will be a change to the drawing. You may choose from a clothing item or the \$5. 2 members will be picked by the random drawing. If someone chooses the \$5 first, then you will need to choose a clothing item. Winners for the day: #9 **CJ** and #7 **Ann Hefty**.

**Brandberg** Tech Session: Corvair distributors all look the same, but they are not. People talk about setting the timing to 14 degrees at idle, and then it advances from there... 2 different types of advances are; the weight advance or the vacuum advance. Some Corvair distributors get installed at 6 degrees, maximum advance is at 36 degrees. The higher the advance the more chance that it'll ping at higher rpm.

A note from last month (ed.):

**Sunshine Coordinator...** This past month, I learned that 1 of our families is going through a difficult time. I coordinated through **President Pederson** and **Treasurer Paul** to send a gift basket to let the family know that we are thinking of them. (We have done this several times in the past) It's not an official position, but if you feel as if you know someone that is going through a extremely difficult time, please feel free to reach out to me, maybe we can send a bit of joy their way!

Meeting adjourned 8-ish.

*Amber Leah,*

CMI Secretary



## **Carburetors**

I talked about distributors in September. I mentioned the importance of having a timing light but forgot to mention what to look for when purchasing one. I like one with a clamp thingy that just goes over the spark plug wire. I have one where you need to take the spark plug wire off to hook up which is inconvenient so I just keep that as a back-up. I like to buy old used ones on Craigslist, I can usually find one nearby for \$30 or so that works and I'd much rather have a good old original than a new piece of crap. You can get one on Ebay but then you miss out on the personal connection, when you show up in a Corvair to buy an old tool, there's solace for some folks that it will be used as intended. As long as you're at it, a Dwell Meter is another good tool to have for checking your distributor function and many have other useful features.

I know I'm half a bubble off and further evidence was my driving to Milwaukee for Fiat parts before last month's meeting. A guy had a pair of black door panels and a pair of rear trailing arms but didn't want to ship them. I used to drive truck down through there a lot so it was like old home day remembering the old routes and stops while having a schedule and making time. It's good to know you still got it even if you don't use it much anymore. I was only about 30 miles north of where Gary moved but didn't make time to stop. I also picked up some Corvair parts in Eau Claire from another project which can be another story for another day. I was pretty tired by the time it got to give a Tech Session so my presentation was not exactly honed razor sharp.

Sometimes there is a misconception that all Corvair distributors are the same and it's the same with carburetors. While they're all the same size and will fit there was some sort of change every year, most of them for the better. This is another Tech Session being dictated by the amount of Corvair stuff I have on hand for show and tell. Last year, maybe the year before, I sorted carburetors out into a milk crate for each year and this topic allows that effort to not have been in vain. While it's loosely true any year Corvair carburetor will work on any year Corvair engine, at the very least one should make sure they have a pair of the same carburetors. With dual carburetors it's almost like we have a pair of three cylinder engines. If half the choir is singing in C and the other half is singing in G they might be on the same song but the end result is sour. Some folks want to glom onto a small piece of information that worked one time and whip it out as a rule of thumb. Carburetor jet sizes can be like that but you have to be careful. You can have a starting point that you like but you have to give each engine what it needs. They're not all the same. The yearly changes to the Corvair carburetors come into play. The high speed enrichment circuit that came along in '65 may allow a skinnier main jet but maybe not in a 140 where the airflow through the Secondary carburetor reduces the airflow through the Primary. I might tend to err on the rich side on someone else's Corvair as I'm not able to experience the usual life it will lead. "Lean and mean" is a great concept right up until the engine blows up. Secondary carburetors with an idle circuit are something we can discuss. It sounds easy until you factor in the parts and time needed. You don't often just slap them on without some time for sorting and "how much is that going to cost?" is a good reason for me to duck and weave or run away. Everyone should have Bob Helt's Corvair Rochester book and his Corvair Carter YH book if you've got a turbo or even if you don't. The information is not all available on your phone.

I know we discussed winter storage as a possible Tech Session topic but I'm just not feeling it this month. I'm not so sure I've ever been well organized in that regard.

*Jim Brandberg*

Corvair Minnesota, Vice President

Officers			Cell Phone	Email	Cars
President	Pedersen	Dave	612-385-2241	dave14957@gmail.com	65 Coupe (Green), Corvino (Gray)
Vice President	Brandberg	Jim	763-444-9334	jimbrandberg@aol.com	Several Early, Late & FC
Treasurer	Schuler	Paul	612-327-9085	schuler3wef1@embarqmail.com	64 Monza Coupe (WH/Orange)
Secretary	Leah	Amber	612-251-9498	amber.81.leah@gmail.com	61 Monza (Red)
Activities Director	<i>Open</i>				
<b>Directors</b>					
	Becker	Jim	214-616-0256	mr.jebecker@gmail.com	67 Coupe (White), '64 Coupe (Brn)
	Quinn	Tom	612-670-9224	tquinn1979@msn.com	63 Convertible (Red)
<b>Coordinators</b>					
Technical Editor	Schmit	Fran	952-288-3041	schmfran@hotmail.com	Several Early, Late & FC (thru the years)
Membership	Jenkins	Mike	763-355-0168	rockinracer@hotmail.com	66 Coupe (Yellow)
Apparel	Olson	Heidi	763-318-5670	lholson@msn.com	61 Rampside (Black)
SEEL Editor	Herkenratt	John	612-719-4580	jherken1@netzero.net	61 Rampside (WH) '66 Conv (Beige)
Treats	Quinn	Gail	612-670-9224	tquinn1979@msn.com	63 Convertible (Red)

Hello! My name is Teresa Keifer (<[tkeifer72@gmail.com](mailto:tkeifer72@gmail.com)>) and I'm reaching out to you regarding my 1965 Chevrolet Corvair Convertible (Monza).

My Corvair is looking for a good home - whether to restore, revive, or use for parts. This 1965 Corvair Convertible Monza has been in my family since 1970. It's a project car with potential for the right Corvair enthusiast.

**Details:** **Model:** 1965 Corvair Convertible Monza  
**Mileage:** 81,000 miles  
**Engine & Gas Tank:** Repaired in 2017  
**Interior:** All original (dash, seats, interior panels)  
**Exterior:** Original paint & trim (shows significant rust & wear)  
**Convertible Top:** Original but broken and in poor condition  
**Convertible Motor:** Original, but not functioning  
**Collector License Plate**  
**Original Owner's Manual included**

#### Condition Overview:

This Corvair is a true survivor but needs a full restoration. The body has visible rust (especially around the wheel wells and rocker panels), interior wear, and the convertible top requires replacement. Mechanically, the engine and gas tank were serviced in 2017 but should be re-evaluated before driving.

#### Ideal for:

A passionate Corvair collector seeking a restoration project looking for authentic parts for another build or a vintage car enthusiast who appreciates its history

If you think someone in your group may be interested, please let me know! I have a few photos and can take more if needed. Located in Tyler, MN.

If there are any questions you may have, or more info I can provide, please let me know. Thank you!

Teresa Keifer (<[tkeifer72@gmail.com](mailto:tkeifer72@gmail.com)>)



# Breakfast and Corvairs

October 4, 2025

8:00AM – Noon

Location: TCT Ideal Hall

1494 Dale St. N, St. Paul, MN 55117

Beverages available 8:00 – 10:30

Food served 9:00 – 10:30

Cost: \$20.00 per person (\$10.00 for Kids, 10 and under)

Meal includes: Eggs, Potatoes, Bacon, Fruit, French Toast Bake, Juice & Coffee

~~Please RSVP no later than September 30th~~

**Reminder only** (deadline to register is past)

**Remember to bring food shelf donations  
(see list on back)**

Total # People @ \$20.00 (10.00/child) = \_\_\_\_\_ (List Names below)

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We will be collecting donations for "We Can" [www.wecanmn.org](http://www.wecanmn.org)  
Check out a list of suggestions on the reverse side.

**If you are planning on helping families at a food bank this season, here are some things you probably don't know.**

1. Everyone donates Kraft Mac and Cheese in the box. They can rarely use it because it needs milk and butter which is hard to get from regular food banks.
2. Boxed milk is a treasure, as kids need it for cereal which they also get a lot of.
3. Everyone donates pasta sauce and spaghetti noodles.
4. They cannot eat all the awesome canned veggies and soup unless you put a can opener in too, or buy pop tops.
5. Oil is a luxury but needed for Rice-a-Roni (which they also get a lot of.)
6. Spices or salt and pepper would be a special gift.
7. Tea bags and coffee make them feel like you care.
8. Sugar and flour are treats.
9. Recipients and food banks fawn over fresh produce donated by farmers and grocery stores.
10. Seeds are cool in Spring and Summer because growing can be easy for some.
11. Food banks rarely get fresh meat.
12. Tuna and crackers make a good lunch.
13. Hamburger Helper goes nowhere without ground beef.
14. Recipients and food banks get lots of peanut butter and jelly but usually not sandwich bread.
15. Butter or margarine is nice too.
16. Eggs are a real commodity.
17. Cake mix and frosting makes it possible to make a child's birthday cake.
18. Dishwashing detergent is very expensive and is always appreciated.
19. Feminine hygiene products are a luxury and women will cry over that.
20. Everyone loves Stove Top Stuffing.
21. Don't forget – there is always a need for paper towels and toilet tissue

***In all the years I have donated food at the food banks, I bought what I thought they wanted but have never asked. I am glad I did.***



Me and my brother Pete were part of the club back in the 70's with Mike Gaynor and a few other guys. I bought this 62 about 3 years ago and I had Jim Brandberg do a bunch of work on it for me. My plan was to get back in the club and be a part of the community again at some point but that hasn't happened due to work, travel and life changes.

This was a restoration that was done several years ago, and it still shows very nice, sheet metal, convertible top (like new), and interior, and it drives down the road very nice.

Jim Brandberg has done several things to the cars for me including: Clutch replacement, flywheel, disc, pressure plate and throw bearing, Rebuilt carbs, Tune up, Plugs, Electronic ignition, Electronic Fuel Pump, Shocks, Re-seal engine compartment.

I have installed: New battery, Alternator system from Clarks, New Muffler and crossover pipe including exhaust gaskets from the head.



I'm looking for \$12,000 or best offer

Email is: [bongard1@charter.net](mailto:bongard1@charter.net)

Bert Bongard (952) 292-5837



## A visit by CMI to Jerry Berge on September 1<sup>st</sup>

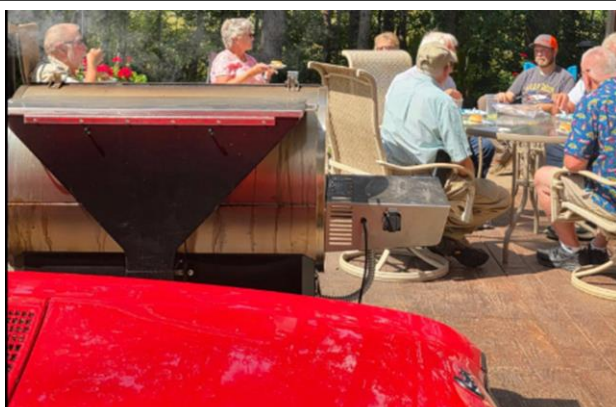
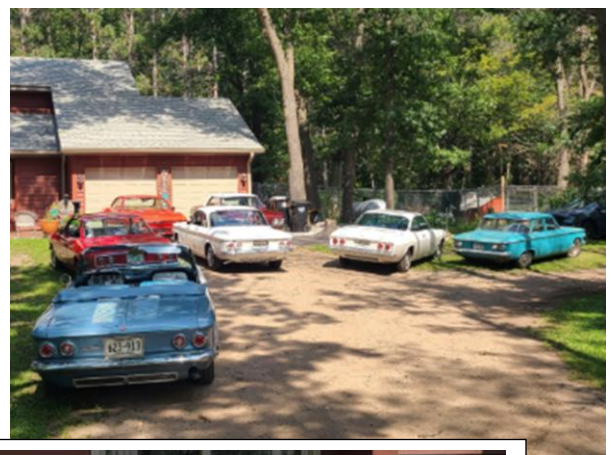
We had a good time. Lee Knauf was going to come but didn't feel well. Rich Buratto rode up with Chuck Johnson in a blue 64 Spyder convertible he got from Jerry years ago. Rich and Renee Storlie came in his red LM coupe. John Rodriguez was in a white 63 and Jim Becker was in a white 67. I had my turquoise '60 4-door. They had Jerry's turbo Corsa convertible out and a 65 coupe Jerry got from Dr David Edwardy in Rochester.

We got down to the garage to see the red 62 Spyder convertible that Jerry has been working on. I feel bad that I haven't made time to get it running, he waited for it from the paint shop forever. The Course-Vair golf cart was in the garage.

It was especially good for Rich to see Jerry. They've been good pals for a long time. Renee spent some good time with Lois.

Jerry got pretty tired by the time we left. It was a good time and Cody is a good grandson for coming up with the idea.

### *Jim Brandberg*



*" Thanks to everyone who was able to stop in to see my Grandpa **Gerald Berge**!"*

**Cody Berge**



## Classified Ads

I have a Corvair and I'm finally at the point where I am ready to let it go. I have had Jim Brandberg work on her over the years and it's because of him I'm reaching out to "Corvair Minnesota". The car is is a **1965 Corsa convertible** with manual transmission. She runs great (thanks again to Jim) and her exterior is if good condition but certainly not show quality. kirk larsen <[kirklarsen123@yahoo.com](mailto:kirklarsen123@yahoo.com)>

My name is Terry Johnson and I have a **1964 Corvair Monza** that I would like to sell. It is in original condition, and would need some tender loving care. Engine runs good, and it is drivable. I am asking \$6,000 for it. My number is 651-470-4071



**1967** 4-Door, 110, power glide, completely redone, new paint and bodywork, new tires and rims. Request for more pictures, too many things to list (*no A/C*).

Call Bill Gautsche @ (715)828-9001 with questions \$13,500



# Check us out...

For more information on  
Corvair Minnesota,  
visit our website:  
[www.corvairminnesota.com](http://www.corvairminnesota.com)

Follow us on  
Facebook:  
Corvair Minnesota



786 members

(as of 09/28/2025)

## Spot a 'Vair!



Started by Louie Van Kuyken Fred was restored by Minnesota Corvair member Jerry Berge and then sold to CMI club member Wally Couture who had Fred for about 8 years before he sold it to Jack Bacon in June 2013 who then sold it to a fellow in Texas.

**CMI** is a non-profit corporation, chartered with the CORVAIR Society of America. Send CORVAIR Minnesota's \$20.00 annual dues, payable by **January 1<sup>st</sup>**, to the CMI Treasurer. Membership in CORVAIR Minnesota entitles you to the monthly newsletter, the **Leeky Seel**, with free ads for members, a club window sticker, discounts on club activities, information on parts availability and good advice on the preservation and enjoyment of the CORVAIR automobile. **Yeah!**

## THE LEEKY SEEL

408 7<sup>th</sup> St S  
Hopkins, MN 55343-7722

TEMP – RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



The next CMI meeting will be held on the  
14<sup>th</sup> of September at Ideal Hall in St. Paul