

Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts, a chapter of the Corvair Society of America, is a non-profit club dedicated to the preservation and restoration of the Corvair automobile.

VCE dues of \$20/year pay for a family membership and 12 issues of the *Oil Drop* newsletter.

President: Ed Keller  
205/823-5424

Vice President: Jon Keeton  
205/841-5169

VP/Membership/Newsletter: Russell Noble  
205/822-6092

Secretary: Joe Doughty  
205/853-0434

Treasurer: John Hathaway  
205/408-4063

Hospitality: Jon & Sarah Keeton  
Sergeant at Arms: Jewel Hinkle



*Harold & Louis Hartline's very nice '66*



**Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts**  
**PO Box 59071**  
**Birmingham, AL 35259-9071**



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OIL



DROP

THE OFFICAL NEWSLETTER OF THE VULCAN CORVAIR ENTHUSIASTS Vol 21, No 1

# January 2000

## *From the Prez*

Y2K Greetings - let's all plan to be as active this year as possible with our "collector" cars and with our club.

I have started to compile dates for activities this year, and we will try to update the calendar of activities every month in the newsletter.

Many thanks to the Keetons for hosting the Christmas party. The food was, as usual, terrific. The January meeting will be presided over by Russell Noble, VP, since yours truly and several other members will be at the Pigeon Forge gathering that weekend.

Reminder - dues of \$20.00 are due in January.

Ed Keller

## *In Sympathy*

Some of you may already know that Frank Ranelli's father passed away recently. Our prayers are with the Ranelli family during this time.

## *Next Meeting:*

Date: Friday, January 21, 2000

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: Vestavia Hills Library on Hwy 31

Note: This meeting will not have the usual full course of food for supper. We will have coffee and some sweets to munch on only. Thanks to all that contribute to feeding the masses at the VCE meetings!

## *Y2K Calendar of Events*

Jan 21-22: Mid-Winter Retreat - Pigeon Forge, TN

Feb 25-27: Corvaair Lovers' Holiday - Navarre, FL

Mar 3-5: Spring Warm-Up - Myrtle Beach, SC

Apr 1: Camellia Classic Open Car Show -  
Bellingrath Gardens, Mobile, AL

Apr 7-8: Charlotte Auto Fair - Charlotte, NC

Apr 28-30: Springfest - Helen, GA

Jul 18-22: Corsa International Convention -  
Daytona Beach, FL



Lakewood

***In the Mail Bag...***

Here is a letter from a Corvair owner to the club. If you want to hook up with him, the numbers are below and his address is 1522 Morton Road, Warrior AL 35780.

*Dear Sir,*

*My name is Raymond Horn and I have numerous Corvair parts and (2) 1966 Monzas (both do not run). I would like to Sell or Barter these parts and (1) vehicle in return for work done on the second vehicle I would like to restore. if not I would like to find someone who does work on these motors.*

*Home 647-3460*

*Work 647-0521*

*Pager 888-7733*

*Thank you,  
Raymond Horn*

***In Case You Missed it...***

The article below was in the January CORSA *Communiqué* about VCE's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary:

\*\*\*\*\*

***Alabama Chapter Celebrates***

Members of *Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts* celebrated the club's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a car meet and picnic on August 21, 1999. Invitations were extended to all and especially 'retired' members to celebrate the event. The gathering drew about 50 attendees from metro Birmingham, Huntsville, and Montgomery and areas in-between. Several charter members were present, including Frank and Sheila Ranelli and Norman Rodgers. Sheila's very nice 1963 Spyder convertible (shown) was



representative of the high quality Corvairs making the trip. In all, 15 cars arrived for the show providing a good mix of earlyies and lates.

Following much reminiscing and extended viewing all the stunning cars, the VCE gathering got down to the real business of the day - barbecue! As you can see in the photo, lines formed in a hurry to partake of all the fixin's and deserts prepared by members and friends.

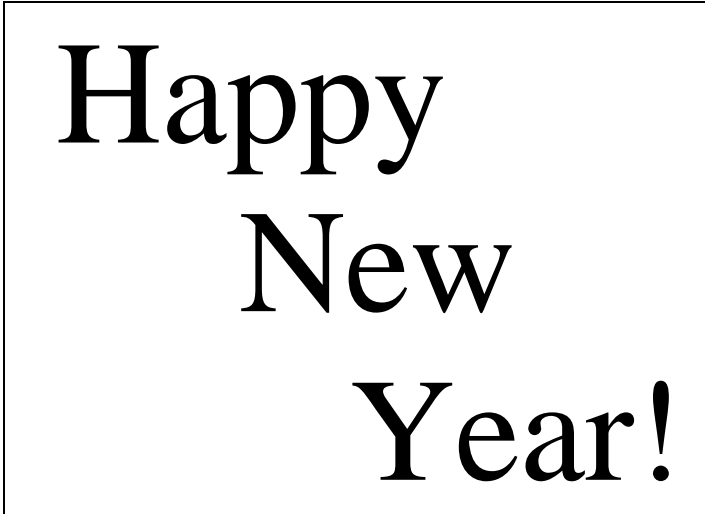


After eating more than should be allowed by nature, our current President, Ed Keller led a short meeting to review the last quarter century and prepare for the next. See you in year 2024 for our 50<sup>th</sup> party! VCE is Corsa Chapter #352 and is headquartered in Birmingham, Alabama.

\*\*\*\*\*

***Happy Birthday***

- Bob Siemens Jan 12
- Wilma Siemens Jan 27
- Owen Miller Jan 8



## VCE 1999 Year-End Member Phone and Address List

Harry & Pat Babyock  
3103 Meadowbrook Trail  
Birmingham, AL 35242  
205-980-9383

Peggy Bagby  
8177 Cedar Mountain Road  
Pinson, AL 35126  
205-681-7014

David Baker  
3319 Ridge Manor Drive  
Hoover, AL 35216  
205-824-6606

Mike Donley  
8 Hibiscus Drive  
Montgomery, AL 36109  
334-272-7793

Joe & Rozelle Doughty  
324 North Lake Road  
Birmingham, AL 35242  
205-995-0131

Charlie & Marie Drake  
6454 New Castle Road  
Morris, AL 35116  
205-681-7143

Roy Dutton  
929 Prospect Road  
Nauvoo, AL 35578  
205-221-1520

Larry Gulsby  
915 Roywood Road  
Irondale, AL 35210  
205-956-3166

Curtis Hare  
3707 Havenview Circle  
Birmingham, AL 35216  
205-823-2165

Phil Harrod  
99 Olympic drive  
Wetumpka, AL 35023

Jerry S. Hart  
PO Box 249  
Centre, AL 35960

Harold & Louis Hartline  
1920 Longview Drive  
Hueytown, AL 35023  
205-491-5253

Phil & Carol Hartline  
905 Echo Trail  
Warrior, AL 35180  
205-590-0141

John & Juanita Hathaway  
1406 Highland Lakes Trail  
Birmingham, AL 35242  
205-408-4063

Buck & Jewel Hinkle  
4142 Terrace R West  
Birmingham, AL 35208  
205-780-0549

Jon & Sarah Keeton  
2008 Elkwood Drive  
Fultondale, AL 35068  
205-841-5169

Ed & Carol Keller  
2461 Jannebo Road  
Birmingham, AL 35216  
205-823-5424

Ethel Mae Lankford  
116 Chandler Drive  
Alabaster, AL 35007  
205-620-6848

David & Amy Langner  
113 Munger Circle  
Trussville, AL 35173  
205-655-9445

George & Ann Miljus  
3520 Belle Meade Way  
Birmingham, AL 35223  
205-972-1385

Owen & Joyce Miller  
601 Avondale Road  
Montgomery, AL 36109  
334-272-7085

Wayne & Judy Moore  
10731 Albert Sanders Road  
Northport, AL 35473  
205-759-2841

Russell & Debbie Noble  
3416 Danner Circle  
Birmingham, AL 35243  
205-822-6092

Joseph & Carol Popinski  
212 Maple Trace  
Birmingham, AL 35244  
205-978-1780

Frank & Sheila Ranelli  
1725 Hendrix Drive  
Birmingham, AL 35214  
205-798-3787

Norman Rodgers  
408 South Broad Street  
Albertville, AL 35211  
205-878-1810

Chris & Francis Rothe  
104 Gardenia Circle  
Pleasant Grove, AL 35127  
205-744-2072

Bob & Wilma Siemens  
1725 Buck Island Drive  
Guntersville, AL 35976  
205-582-2175

Jerry & Sara Smith  
595 Browning Road  
Odenville, AL 35120  
205-640-6952

Grant & Mary Snead  
4427 Ridgewood Road East  
Tuscaloosa, AL 35404  
205-553-4210

Floyd T. Snider  
4960 Big Oak Drive  
Southside, AL 35907

Joe & Ann Steadman  
1629 Arrowhead Road  
Jasper, AL 35504  
205-384-9576

Richard & Sandy  
Stolzman  
376 Burgess drive  
Springville, AL 35146  
205-467-6444

Charles & Jan Trotter  
102 Allen Road  
Pell City, AL 35125  
205-338-6828

Hugh & Sara White  
1411 Gonzales Street  
Pensacola, FL 32510  
904-432-5974

Dick & Barbara Witkos  
3112 Clayburne Road  
Dothan, AL 36303  
334-792-8528

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*Charles & Jan Trotter's 1965 Corsa Convertible*



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# OIL DROP

THE OFFICAL NEWSLETTER OF THE VULCAN CORVAIR ENTHUSIASTS Vol 21, No 2

## February 2000

### *From the Prez*

We had four couples attend the annual social in Pigeon Forge, TN, Jan 21-23. The Hartlines, Hathaways, Millers, and Kellers represented VCE this year. It was a bright, clear, cold day for the drive up on Friday, but Saturday morning brought snow and plenty of it. The white stuff started coming down about 9:00AM, and it snowed all day. The stuff was so heavy that the outlet malls started closing during the morning hours. By Saturday night, we were hard pressed to find a restaurant that had stayed open, but we did find a steak house close by, and we were the last customers allowed in the front door. Fortunately, Sunday morning brought a partial melt-down so we could start home.

Don't Forget to renew for 2000, if you haven't already paid your dues.

We will have a Sunday Dinner run on the 20<sup>th</sup> to the "Top-of-the-River" restaurant in Anniston. This is almost directly across the highway from the Museum of Natural History,

which opens Sunday at 1:00PM. We will meet at approximately 9:30AM at the parking lot of the Hamburger Heaven on Hiway 78 east. We need to be on the road by 10:00 at the latest for a leisurely drive to Anniston. After lunch, those who wish can spend as much time as they want at the Museum. See you Friday night at the Library...

Ed

### *Next Meeting:*

Date: Friday, February 18, 2000

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: Vestavia Hills Library on Hwy 31

Note: There was some talk at the last meeting about holding the February meeting at the Picadilly...this is not true! We will meet at the library, where Juanita Hathaway and Louise Hartline will be serving. The menu will include lasagna and all the side goodies. Thanks!

### *Y2K Calendar of Events*

Feb 18: Regular meeting - Vestavia library

Feb 20 Dinner run to Anniston

Feb 25-27: Corvaire Lovers' Holiday - Navarre, FL

Mar 3-5: Spring Warm-Up - Myrtle Beach, SC

Apr 1: Camellia Classic Open Car Show -  
Bellingrath Gardens, Mobile, AL

Apr 7-8: Charlotte Auto Fair - Charlotte, NC

Apr 28-30: Springfest - Helen, GA

Jul 18-22: Corsa International Convention -  
Daytona Beach, FL

## ***E-mail Address?***

If you have email, let us know so we can put you on the list. It is a great way to communicate with your Corvair friends. Here are the ones we have so far. If yours is incorrect, just let me know. Russell

Jim Black*	JBLACK@Acipco.com
Roy Dutton	Dalore16@Yahoo.com
Mike Donley	MDonley@webtv.net
Phil Harrod	PHarrod532@aol.com
Jon Keeton	CUDAMAN@Prodigy.net (Sarah)
Carol Keller	ckel1218@aol.com (Ed)
Joyce Miller	RetiredCouple@Juno.com (Owen)
Russell Noble	rnoble@southernco.com (Debbie)
Frank Ranelli	VAIR3@Bellsouth.net (Sheila)
Chris Rothe	Kt4ys@worldnet.att.net (Frannie)
Richard Stolzmann	RStolzmann@IBM.Net (Sandy)
Bill Thurman*	WThurmanii@aol.com (Mary Alice)
Jan Trotter	JANTROTT@GTE.NET (Charles)

\*Former members

## ***SIDEBAR: Celebrity Corvairs***

\* Elvis gave Priscilla Presley a red 1963 Monza coupe upon her graduation from Immaculate Conception High School in Memphis.

\* The comedian Ernie Kovacs died when he drove his Lakewood station wagon into a Los Angeles telephone pole in 1962.

\* Dick Clark owns a 1969 convertible.

\* Bob Dylan has two Corvairs and stores them in a garage in Woodstock, N.Y.

\* Lucy Baines Johnson drove a turbo '64 Spyder while living at the White House during her father Lyndon's presidency.

\* Betty Skelton, wife of comedian Red Skelton, appeared in Corvair commercials.

\* Darin and Samantha Stevens owned a Corvair on "Bewitched."

...taken from "The News Tribune"

\*\*\*\*\*

## ***Happy Birthday***

Mike Donley	Feb 23
Louise Hartline	Feb 23
Joyce Miller	Feb 25
Jan Trotter	Feb 27

\*\*\*\*\*



## ***Buick V6 in a Vair***

The article on the next page was taken from Gary Aube's website at:

<http://magi.com/~gaube/corvair/>

This is a fantastic site with more pictures, articles, information on Corvairs that I can recall at one site. If you have access to the world wide web, go check it out and I'm sure you will be impressed.

**Dues  
are  
Due**

## Jeff Brekke's Buick-powered '65 (taken from Gary Aube's web site)

Jeff's excellent craftsmanship is evident in the engine bay. The iron-block, .030 over 231 cubic inch displacement, reverse-rotation, mid '80s Buick V-6 fits perfectly under the stock hood, with fresh air for the Holley carburetor supplied through the standard Corvair inlets and plenum behind the rear window. The Holley is a 390 cfm model with #52 jets. The intake manifold is an aluminum Edelbrock dual plane. Ignition is provided by an MSD billet V-6 Buick distributor with distributor gears cut to allow for correct oil pump rotation, and an MSD 6A box (upper right in photo). At the lower left is an Airtique AC compressor, and at the extreme left, an aluminum panel with quick release fasteners gives access to the battery in its stock location. A coolant recovery tank is seen in the upper left hand corner of the picture, is the highest point in the cooling



system and is used for filling and to purge air. At the right in the photo, a compact spare tire replaces the stock full size spare. The engine uses forged pistons and the stock compression ratio, and the

connecting rods were rotated for proper power stroke geometry. The new firing order is 1-2-3-4-5-6. The engine's cam rotation is in reverse and driven using a Milodon gear drive with an idler gear. The cam is a Howard's billet roller cam (.488 intake and exhaust w/112 degree centerline) made for reverse valve timing. The valves are motivated by Isky full skirt roller lifters (solid; .026 lash) and the valve train uses a T&D Machine aluminum roller rocker shaft system. All rotating assemblies were balanced. A water pump pulley was fabricated with the belt drive on the back side, similar to an idler pulley. The crank shaft oil seal surface was filled and polished to prevent oil from being directed out past the seal, and the starter internals were reversed. The front-mounted radiator is a Modine unit intended for Chevy Caprice and Cadillac replacements. It is mounted in a vertical configuration between the headlights. Coolant lines are routed to the rear of the car inside the floor pan tunnel. Jeff made the engine-to-transaxle adapter out of 6061-T6 aluminum .25 inch sheet. He cut out the two bolt patterns and rolled the center. The center was welded to the engine plate first. He left about .5 inches in extra length to be later removed in a lathe for truing. The transaxle pattern was then welded in while the engine and transaxle were mocked up together. After all the welding, the whole thing was put back in the lathe for any necessary truing or facing on both ends. The transaxle is a '66-69 Corvair 4-speed Saginaw unit with a 3.27:1 final drive ratio. A new hydraulic clutch arrangement makes use of a slave cylinder intended for older Ford trucks.



The stance of the Corsa is excellent! Jeff lowered the front of the car by cutting one coil out of front springs. Springs are stock at the back of the car with the Corvair independent rear suspension retained and set to slight negative camber. A set of Weiland headers feed the dual exhaust pipes which exit through the blacked out inserts of the three piece stock Corsa air exhaust grill. The rear was further modified by discarding the back-

up lights in favor of a second set of brake lights. This was done by changing out the lenses and rewiring the inner units. While the Corvair purist might not be able to live without a genuine Corvair engine under the deck lid, many would find it difficult to find fault with Brekke's setup. The Buick V-6 makes approximately 205 hp and 269 lb-ft of torque @ 4000 rpm and 274 hp and 261 lb-ft of torque @ 5500 rpm. Jeff's had the car to 105 mph (under controlled conditions, of course) and says it feels great at that speed, and under normal highway conditions, seems to have plenty of safe passing power. I believe it. Well done, Jeff! Contact Jeff by e-mail: [Brek86@cs.com](mailto:Brek86@cs.com) Photos by Rick Norris



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*Buck and Jewel Hinkle's 1964 Spyder Convertible*



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# OIL DROP

THE OFFICAL NEWSLETTER OF THE VULCAN CORVAIR ENTHUSIASTS Vol 21, No 3

## *March* *2000*

### *From the Prez*

Our next event will be a dinner run to Anniston, postponed from February 20<sup>th</sup>. We will have the same meeting place and time to caravan - Hamburger Heaven, Crestwood Blvd., Irondale, at 9:30 am, Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup>. Harold Hartline has given a report on the Navarre trip. Our regular monthly meeting will be March 17<sup>th</sup> at the Vestavia Library.

Ed

### *Caring and Reflection*

Our deepest sympathy to John Hathaway and family on the passing away of our dear Juanita. We will always remember her laughter, her smile, and her big heart.

### *Next Meeting:*

Date: Friday, March 17, 2000

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: Vestavia Hills Library on Hwy 31

Carol Keller and Sarah Keeton will be serving for the March meeting, so bring an appetite. We really appreciate those who prepare and bring food and goodies to the VCE meetings!

### *VCE Navarre Trip*

The 17<sup>th</sup> annual Corvaire Lover's Holiday and car show was held Feb 25-27, 2000, at Navarre Beach, Florida. Sponsored by West Coast Florida Corvaire Club, this event continues to attract Corvaire owners from a number of states. The VCE Club, as usual, was well represented. Owen and Joyce Miller, Jon and Sarah Keeton, Frank Ranelli and his daughters, Mike Donley, Joe and Rozelle Doughty, Buck and Jewel Hinkle, Jerry and Sarah Smith, Chris and Frannie Roth and their children, Steve and Luanne Harris and son, John, John and Juanita Hathaway, and Harold and Louise Hartline attended.

It turned out to be a picture perfect weekend. Clear blue sky, azure Gulf water, white sand and squawking sea birds, what more could you ask? Hospitality of the West Florida Club was as good as it gets. There was an excellent turnout of really good Corvaire and lots of visiting with old friends.

Everything went well until about 5:30 PM Saturday afternoon, when Juanita Hathaway suffered the stroke that took her life. To say she will be sorely missed sounds terribly inadequate, but what else can you say?

Harold Hartline

## ***Y2K Calendar of Events***

- Mar 12 Dinner run to Anniston  
Apr 1 Camellia Classic Open Car Show -  
Bellingrath Gardens, Mobile, AL  
Apr 6-9 Charlotte Auto Fair - Charlotte, NC  
Apr 28-30 Springfest - Helen, GA  
May 13 Sports car show - Tannehill Park - all  
sports and special interest cars invited  
May 20 Pontiac Show - Zamora Shrine parking  
lot  
June 10 AACA Divisional National Meet Car  
Show - Nashville, TN  
Jul 18-22 Corsa International Convention -  
Daytona Beach, FL  
Sept 16 Tour to Millard Young's -  
Piedmont, AL  
Oct 7-8 Car Show - Wings and Wheels -  
Bessemer airport  
Oct 20-22 Fall Corvaire Affair - Charlotte, NC

## ***New Member and Update***

Add Walt and Marilyn Davison to your VCE member list. They joined us last month. Welcome!

Walt & Marilyn Davison  
156 Summer Place Lane  
Sylacauga, AL 35150  
256/245-9728

Also, here is a new email address to add to last month's member listing:

Sarah Smith sarah.smith7@worldnet.att.net (Jerry)

## ***For Sale***

This ad was in this week's local newspaper:

**CORVAIR CONV. '63** Auto,  
new top, 71K orig mi, runs  
good. \$3500obo. Call 664-8260

## ***Wanted***

Looking for sheet metal. Need lower sections (L&R) of rear quarters in front of wheel well for LM 2dr. I am thinking about doing some rust renovation. Russell Noble 205/822-6092 or rtnoble@southernco.com

\*\*\*\*\*

## ***Happy Birthday***

Charlie Drake Mar 3  
Frank Ranelli Mar 6  
Richard Stolzmann Mar 30

\*\*\*\*\*



## ***How about This...***

Is that 1966 *Lakewood* 3-door neat looking or what?? Here's my down payment...I want one!

\*\*\*\*\*

*This space  
reserved  
for  
whatever  
anyone  
wants  
to put here!*

**Dues  
are  
Due**

Bring \$\$\$ to the meeting or mail to:

John Hathaway  
1406 Highland Lakes Trail  
B'ham, AL 35242

## Corvairs in the News

Joe Doughty of VCE called me a couple of weeks ago and told me about an article in the Sunday Birmingham News concerning Corvairs. Here it is below in case you missed it. These guys obviously don't like Corvairs and I'm not sure they know what they are talking about. I have never had a Corvair that 'diseled'.



## Click And Clack Talk Cars

### Mechanic blames dead battery on humid climate

Dear Tom and Ray:  
A friend of mine visiting New Orleans had his battery go bad. He was told by the service technician that in the humid and warm climate of Louisiana, an electrical connection could establish itself across the battery terminals and cause a short. This has an air of plausibility about it. Moisture-saturated air, near enough to the ocean to have salt ions floating around in it, might be considered a weak electrolyte fluid. Does this explanation have potential? — Joe

TOM: Clearly, it has potential, Joe. You bought it!

RAY: Unfortunately, it's complete battery wash.

TOM: It does have that "air of plausibility" about it, like all good, bogus theories do. There's just enough science in there to make you think, "Hmm, sounds good..." But if that theory were true, every coastal community in the United States would have an army of dead batteries every time it rains (which makes the relative humidity 100 percent, right?).

RAY: The truth is, it takes more than salty, humid air to make a meaningful electrical connection between the battery terminals. I'd say it's more likely that your friend left a door ajar after spending a late night on Bourbon Street. And then the dome light ran down the battery overnight while he was sleeping off all those Lucky Dogs. That has a greater air of plausibility, wouldn't you say?

• • •

Dear Tom and Ray:  
I own a 1965 Chevy Corvair Monza. It has a 110-horsepower pancake six-cylinder engine. The problem is with the exhaust system, I think. The car has around 70,000 miles

Turn to next page

## Click and Clack

Continued from previous page

On it, and after I turn off the engine, about five seconds later, the muffler emits a loud backfire that sounds exactly like a gunshot. I'm not thrilled about that, but the bigger problem is that the mufflers keep burning out (I get the cheap ones). I tried replacing both carburetors, and that didn't help.

Can these mufflers just not take the heat of an air-cooled engine? I can get a better muffler (it's around \$100), but I want to know if that will solve the problem. Supposedly, it's a muffler that was designed for the Corvair and can take the heat of the exhaust. Should I get the expensive muffler? — Kevin

RAY: No, you shouldn't, Kevin. I wouldn't get an expensive anything for this car, to tell you the truth. Except maybe an expensive football helmet.

TOM: I don't think the muffler is your problem. I think the problem is "dieseling," or "run-on." These cars are famous for it. They run so hot that even after the ignition is turned off, it's possible for the combustion process to continue — sometimes for many seconds!

RAY: A friend of mine had a '65 Corvair, and we kept turning

the idle speed down ... and down ... and down in an effort to get it to stop dieseling. We turned it down to half of what it should be and still, every time he shut off the car, it would keep sputtering for about 15 or 20 seconds — "budup bu bup bup, budup bup bup." Of course, we were living in Texas, where it was 108 degrees in the shade, so that didn't help.

TOM: When the engine sputters like that, gasoline continues to get sucked into the cylinders. Some of it burns, but most of it does not. And when the unburned gas finds its way into the exhaust system and reaches a critical mass in the hot muffler — kaboom!

RAY: Run-on is usually caused by an idle speed that's too high, engine operating temperature that's too high, timing that's too advanced or any combination of the three. So fix that first, Kevin, or you'll keep going through mufflers like my brother goes through ... uh, name something you go through quickly, Tommy ...

TOM: Spouses.

• • •

Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk section of cars.com on the World Wide Web.

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*Jerry and Sarah Smith's 1964 Monza Convertible*



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# OIL DROP



THE OFFICAL NEWSLETTER OF THE VULCAN CORVAIR ENTHUSIASTS Vol 21, No 4

## April 2000

### *From the Prez*

Spring is finally here, and once we get past the rain, it will be time for some serious outdoor activities, such as car shows, day trips, etc.

Along with the Corvair driving will come Corvair maintenance and repair, along with, hopefully, some restoration work. In this line of thought, I have forwarded a reminder of Murphy's Law, which we need to keep in mind when approaching any Corvair repair. See you at the meeting.

Ed

### *Next Meeting:*

Date: Friday, April 21, 2000

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: Vestavia Hills Library on Hwy 31

### *VCE is on the World Wide Web*

As this *OIL DROP* goes to press, the final touches on the club's web site are being completed. The site is sponsored by Hemmings and is free of charge. I sent in some stuff to get it started, but we can change it to whatever the club wants in the future. Check it out at:

<http://clubs.hemmings.com/vulcancorvair/>

### *Y2K Calendar of Events*

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| Apr. 15         | British Car Show - Pensacola, FL   |
| Apr. 22         | Mustang Show @ Town & Country Ford   |
| Apr. 28-30      | Springfest - Helen, GA   |
| Apr. 29         | Ford Festival - Liberty Park, B'ham  |
| May 5-6         | British Car days - Townsend, TN  |
| May 13          | Sports Car Show - Tannehill Park - All sports cars and special interest cars invited |
| May 19-21       | Virginia Vair Fair, Lynchburg, VA  |
| May 20          | Pontiac show - Zamora Shrine Parking Lot   |
| May 20          | British Motor Car Day - Chateau Elan, GA   |
| Jun. 10         | British Car Show - Montgomery  |
| Jun. 10         | AACA Divisional National Meet Car Show - Nashville, TN                               |
| Jul. 18-22      | Corsa International Convention - Daytona Beach, FL                                   |
| Sep. 16         | Tour to Millard Young's - Piedmont, AL   |
| Sep. 30         | Petit LeMans at Road Atlanta   |
| Oct. 7          | British car Show - Fairhope, AL  |
| Oct. 7-8        | Car Show - Wings & Wheels - Bessemer Airport   |
| Oct. 20-22      | Fall Corvair Affair - Charlotte, NC  |
| Nov. 3-4        | British Car Show Chattanooga, TN   |
| <hr/>           |  |
| May 3-5, '01    | AACA National Meet, Talladega Motor Speedway   |
| Jul. 25-28, '01 | Corsa International Convention - Chicago   |

***New Members***

New members again this month! VCE is growing so fast I am having trouble keeping up. So, add Tom and Muffet Wiles to your member list. They have just moved to B'ham from the northeast (PA?) and have bought a new 1964 off the web. He drove it to B'ham from Maine a couple of weeks ago. I bet they have a good story about that trip...maybe they will submit it for the May issue of the *OIL DROP*. Welcome folks!

Tom & Muffet Wiles  
729H Sunhill Road  
B'ham, AL 35215  
205/853-2085

Here are the Wiles' email addresses:

Tom Wiles tom123123@aol.com  
Muffett Wiles muffetww@aol.com

***Email update...***

Carol Keller ckell1218@mindspring.com (Ed)  
Mike Donley m\_donley@knology.net

Also, with the expanding list of members with email now, let me know if you want to receive the *OIL DROP* via email as an attachment. You could forward it to your other Vair friends or whatever. It is a Word 97 document and is sort of a large file at about 2 MB each issue.

Russell



***Vair Wanted***

One of you may have what this guy is looking for in Huntsville. This email was sent to me a couple of weeks ago:

*Hello,*

*I'm Ron Curtis in Huntsville, AL. I'm looking for a 66-69 (?) Corsa 140 4-sp coupe or convertible, prefer convertible in good driving condition.*

*Any contacts can reach me at*

*Ronald.curtis@pobox.tbe.com or 931/732-4694.*

*Thanks for your help,*

*Ron*

***Wanted***

Still looking for sheet metal. Need lower sections (L&R) of rear quarters in front of wheel well for LM 2dr. I am thinking about doing some rust renovation. Russell Noble 205/822-6092 or [rt noble@southernco.com](mailto:rt noble@southernco.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

***Happy Birthday***

Sarah Smith Apr 6

\*\*\*\*\*

**Dues  
are  
(over) Due**

Last Notice. If this applies to you, bring \$\$ to the meeting or mail to:

John Hathaway  
1406 Highland Lakes Trail  
B'ham, AL 35242

# *The World According to Murphy*

## **Murphy's Law in General**

If there is a possibility of several things going wrong, the one that will cause the most damage will be the one to go wrong.

When any mechanical contrivance fails, it will do so at the most inconvenient time. This is the "Principal of Maximum Difficulty."

## **Murphy's Law as Applied to Parts:**

Interchangeable parts won't.

Parts for Corvair engine that positively cannot be assembled in improper order will be.

Any part requiring service or adjustment will be least accessible.

If the restoration requires "X" components, Clark's will have "X" minus one in stock.

A failure will not appear in a Clark's reproduction until it has passed final inspection.

Firmness of Clark's delivery dates in inversely proportional to the tightness of the restoration schedule. After adding two weeks to the delivery schedule for unexpected delays, add two more for the unexpected, unexpected delays.

## **Murphy's Law as Applied to the Workshop Manual:**

When all else fails, read the instructions.

If you do not understand a particular word or phrase in the workshop manual, ignore it. The manual will make perfect sense without it.

The most vital instruction in the workshop manual stands the greatest chance of: being obliterated by grease.

## **Murphy's Law as Applied to Workshops and Workbenches:**

After the transmission has been assembled, extra components will be found on the bench.

An object will fall from the bench so as to do the most damage.

The most delicate component will be the one to fall.

Parts, when dropped, will roll into the least accessible corner of the workshop.

The accessibility during recovery of parts which fall from the work bench varies directly with the size of the part and inversely with its importance to the completion of work underway.

## **Murphy's Law as Applied to General Repairs:**

When an adjustment error has been detected and corrected, it will be found to have been correct in the first place.

After the adjustment correction has been found in error, it will be impossible to adjust back to the original setting.

After the last of 16 mounting screws has been removed from an access cover, it will be discovered that the wrong access cover has been removed.

After an access cover has been secured by the last of 16 screws, it will be discovered that the gasket has been omitted.

Anything can be made to work if you fiddle with it long enough.

If it jams - force it. If it breaks, it needed replacing anyway.



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205/853-0434

Treasurer: John Hathaway  
205/408-4063

Hospitality: Jon & Sarah Keeton  
Sergeant at Arms: Jewel Hinkle



*Jon & Sarah Keeton's 1965 Monza Convertible*



**Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts**  
**PO Box 59071**  
**Birmingham, AL 35259-9071**



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# OIL DROP

THE OFFICAL NEWSLETTER OF THE VULCAN CORVAIR ENTHUSIASTS Vol 21, No 5

## May 2000

### *From the Prez*

Another trip to Springfest, Helen, GA, has come and gone. We had fewer folks from Birmingham attend this year, but still enjoyed the weekend. Harold and Louise Hartline, Buck and Jewell Hinkle, Jerry and Sarah Smith, John Hathaway, Charles and Jan Trotter, Norman Rodgers, and yours truly, along with Carol were in the group. I drove the '66 Corsa over 590 miles round trip, due to going by way of Huntsville and Chattanooga on the way up, and Rome, GA coming back.

As usual, there were some interesting Vairs to see, and it was good to see old friends again. Among those we had not seen in some time were Charlie and Ann Johns from Brewton, AL and Lee and Grace Mashburn from Georgia.

We want to again wish a fast recovery to Bob Siemens (shoulder surgery) and Owen Miller (leg injury).

Ed Keller

### *VCE is on the World Wide Web*

Yup, we really are. Go check it out at:

<http://clubs.hemmings.com/vulcancorvair/>

### *Next Meeting:*

Date: Friday, May 19, 2000

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: Vestavia Hills Library on Hwy 31

Serving dinner for the masses will be Sarah Smith and Wilma Siemens. Thanks girls, and all others that chip in!

### *Y2K Calendar of Events*

- May 13 Sports Car Show - Tannehill Park - All sports cars and special interest cars invited
- May 13 Spring Fling Car & Truck Show - Leeds Memorial Park
- May 13 Classic Car Show - Springville, AL
- May 13 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Rod Run - CenterPoint Plaza
- May 19-21 Virginia Vair Fair, Lynchburg, VA
- May 20 Pontiac show - Zamora Shrine Parking Lot
- May 20 British Motor Car Day - Chateau Elan, GA
- May 27 Street Rod Show - Bay Minette, AL
- Jun. 10 British Car Show - Montgomery
- Jun. 10 AACA Divisional National Meet Car Show - Nashville, TN
- Jun 16-18 Talledega Auto Fest, 2000 - 3-day Big Event
- Jul. 18-22 **Corsa International Convention** - Daytona Beach, FL
- Sep 9 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Corvair Swap Meet @ Ted's Auto Body - Tucker, GA
- Sep. 16 Tour to Millard Young's - Piedmont, AL

## ***Y2K Calendar of Events (cont.)***

Sep. 30 Petit LeMans at Road Atlanta  
Oct. 7 British car Show - Fairhope, AL  
Oct. 7-8 Car Show - Wings & Wheels - Bessemer Airport  
Oct. 20-22 Fall Corvair Affair - Charlotte, NC  
Nov. 3-4 British Car Show Chattanooga, TN

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May 3-5, '01 AACA National Meet, Talladega Motor Speedway  
Jul. 25-28, '01 Corsa International Convention - Chicago

## ***Cruise-Ins***

New:

1<sup>st</sup> Sun - 1-4pm, Arby's @ Moody  
4<sup>th</sup> Sat - Night, Sonic @ Gardendale

Note: These are in addition to the reg. Cruise Ins:

1<sup>st</sup> Sat - Walmart @ Pelham  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sat - Burger King @ Center Point  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sat - Arby's @ Trussville  
4<sup>th</sup> Sat - Bessemer

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## ***Minutes***

### ***VCE meeting 4/21/2000***

The meeting was held at 7pm at the Vestavia library with Jewell Hinkle and Rozelle Doughty serving refreshments.

After refreshments, President Ed Keller opened the business meeting and called for the Secretary to read the minutes of the 3/17/00 meeting and the minutes were approved as read.

Treasurer, John Hathaway, gave the following report

Previous Balance	\$748.21
Funds received	\$135.00
Expenditures	<u>\$ 61.65</u>
Current balance	\$821.56

President Keller discussed the subject of including the minutes in the *Oil Drop* each month and this was approved by vote of the membership.

Russell Noble brought up the idea of reimbursing those members who furnished and served refreshments at the meetings. The biggest question seemed to be whether or not the club treasury could afford this or not. After some discussion, Russell was assigned the job, along with John Hathaway, of researching the effect on the club treasury and the feasibility of doing this.

Richard Stoltzmann volunteered to have a cookout and swim party at his home in Springville sometime in June with the Stoltzmann's furnishing hamburgers and hotdogs. The other club members would be asked to bring a dish, drinks, etc. A definite date was not set.

President Keller stated that he had not lined up the proposed club visit to the Barber Motorcycle Museum but would work on this. He also discussed the possibility of the club taking another trip to Tallassee, AL to eat at the old hotel there as we did once before.

Russell Noble reported that we now have a club web site under the free web site program offered by Hemmings Motor News. The site can be updated 12 times a year without charge.

A show of hands indicated a good number of our club members plan to attend Corvair Atlanta's Springfest at Helen, GA on April 28-30, 2000.

It was announced that refreshments for the May meeting would be handled by Sarah Smith and Wilma Siemens.

President Keller said that a short tech session on automatic transmissions would be held by Walt Davison after adjournment. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Joe Doughty

**Looking for a Corvair....**

I received this email a while back:

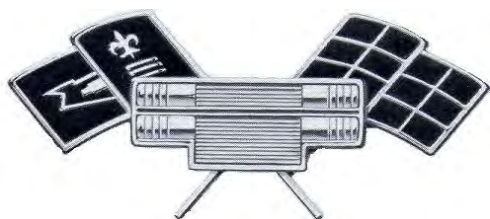
*Hello, I got your email from "The Forum" and your post about the club meeting in Birmingham. I was a member of Vulcan several years ago and then sold all my Vairs.*

*I am currently looking for an AC convertible. You may have seen my posts on the list. I wanted to make sure someone in the club there knew I was looking. If you would, please pass the word around and maybe someone will stumble on one for sale. I know people like Frank are always finding or hearing about cars.*

*Thanks! I am in Guntersville and long time friends with Norman Rodgers in Albertville.*

*Jeff Horton 256/582-5256*

*email kudzupatch@bigfoot.com*



**PARTS, PARTS, PARTS**

Got this email the other day:

*I am seeking help in disposing/selling several (4) complete Corvair engines, numerous heads, and some other misc. parts...also 2 rusted/gutted bodies. I believe one is a '62 wagon and one is a 66 Monza.*

*These parts were collected over the years by a relative, now disabled, who has asked me to help him dispose of them. The parts are located in the B'ham area.*

*If you, or members of VCE might be interested, contact me at REEDJOHNP@YAHOO.COM*

*Thanks for your help.*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Happy Birthday**

- Wayne Moore      May 16
- Norman Rodgers    May 12
- Jerry Smith        May 30

\*\*\*\*\*

**A 'Vairy' Good Trip!**

New members. Tom and Muffet Wiles recently bought a new Corvair from an advertisement on the web. Tom went up to the cold northeast to retrieve the car and drove it all the way back here. He sent me some photos taken along the way home. Here are some shots:



Above is Tom outside a 'Robbins Auto Parts' - a family owned organization that has served New Hampshire, Southern Maine and Northern Massachusetts for over sixty years.



The above photo shows the new ride outside the famous 'Corvair Ranch' near Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. I can't wait to check out this new addition to the club.



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*Norman Rodgers' 1965 Monza*



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DROP

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE VULCAN CORVAIR ENTHUSIASTS Vol 21, No 6

# June 2000

## *Driver's Seat*

Well, the heat is back and it is time for Corvairs to start pinging again. I pulled my lower shrouds off a couple of weeks ago, and that pretty much cures it for me. Speaking of being hot, note in the 'Events' list that the Noccalula Falls show has been moved from the normal July date into September where it will be much cooler for the patrons.

VCE's next event will be the cookout and swim party at the Stoltzmann's on July 9<sup>th</sup>. A map & directions to their house are in this *Oil Drop* issue.

There has been much talk lately about the regular meeting supper/refreshments and what to do about it in the future. I sure like the full meals - but I'm not the one putting in the time to fix them! Put your thinking caps on and bring ideas on the subject to the meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup>. See you there.

Russell Noble  
(Subbing for Ed)

## *May Issue Correction*

Walt Davison also participated in the trip to Helen during April, driving his Ultravan!

## *Next Meeting:*

Date: Friday, June 16, 2000

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: Vestavia Hills Library on Hwy 31

Serving dinner for the hungry members will be Joyce and Owen Miller. The menu will be sandwiches and sides. Thanks folks!

## *Y2K Calendar of Events*

- Jun 10 AACA Divisional National Meet Car Show - Nashville, TN
- Jun 16-18 Talledega Auto Fest, 2000 - 3-day Big Event
- Jun 17 British Car Show - Montgomery
- Jul 15 Summer Spectacular Car Show - Leeds Memorial Park
- Jul 18-22 **Corsa International Convention** - Daytona Beach, FL
- Sep 9 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Corvair Swap Meet @ Ted's Auto Body - Tucker, GA
- Sep 16 Tour to Millard Young's - Piedmont, AL
- Sep 23-24 Noccalula Falls Cars Show and Swap Meet - Gadsden
- Sep 30 Petit LeMans at Road Atlanta
- Oct 7 British car Show - Fairhope, AL
- Oct 7-8 Car Show - Wings & Wheels - Bessemer Airport
- Oct 20-22 Fall Corvair Affair - Charlotte, NC
- Nov 3-4 British Car Show Chattanooga, TN
- 2001-----
- Jul 25-28 Corsa International Convention - Chicago

### ***Cruise-Ins***

1<sup>st</sup> Sun - 1-4pm, Arby's @ Moody  
4<sup>th</sup> Sat - Night, Sonic @ Gardendale  
1<sup>st</sup> Sat - Walmart @ Pelham  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sat - Burger King @ Center Point  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sat - Arby's @ Trussville  
4<sup>th</sup> Sat - Bessemer

### ***For Sale***

Excellent body - 1964 Corvair Monza Coupe - four speed. Plus all parts stripped from another 1964 Corvair Coupe. Ready for restoring - all for \$675.

Jerry Smith  
(205) 640-6952

---

### ***Minutes: VCE meeting 5/19/2000***

The meeting was held at 7pm at the Vestavia library with Sarah Smith and Jewel Hinkle serving dinner.

Russell Noble, sitting in for president Ed Keller, called the meeting to order. Reading of the April minutes were waived as they are now printed in the Oil Drop.

Treasurer, John Hathaway, gave the following report:

Previous Balance	\$821.56
Current balance	\$859.31

VCE now has a new web site - see the May newsletter for the address.

The Stoltzmann's will sponsor a swim party and cookout on July 9th. The regular meeting will be held. Richard will furnish hamburgers and franks and asked that those attending bring a dish. Richard will provide a map to his house for the June *Oil Drop*.

Joyce and Owen Miller will serve for the month of June.

Discussion was opened concerning some reimbursement to those who furnish food for the regular meetings. Also, a suggestion was made to go back to the practice of serving only desert and coffee. a motion was made by John Hathaway to give servers \$40 if only one serves and \$20 each if two. Motion passed.

Harold Hartline announced that he wants to find a mechanical transmission jack made by Walker. He asked that members be on the lookout.

A brief report was given on the recent VCE trip to Helen, Georgia.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15.

Harold Hartline for Joe Doughty

---

### ***Help!!!!!!!!!!***

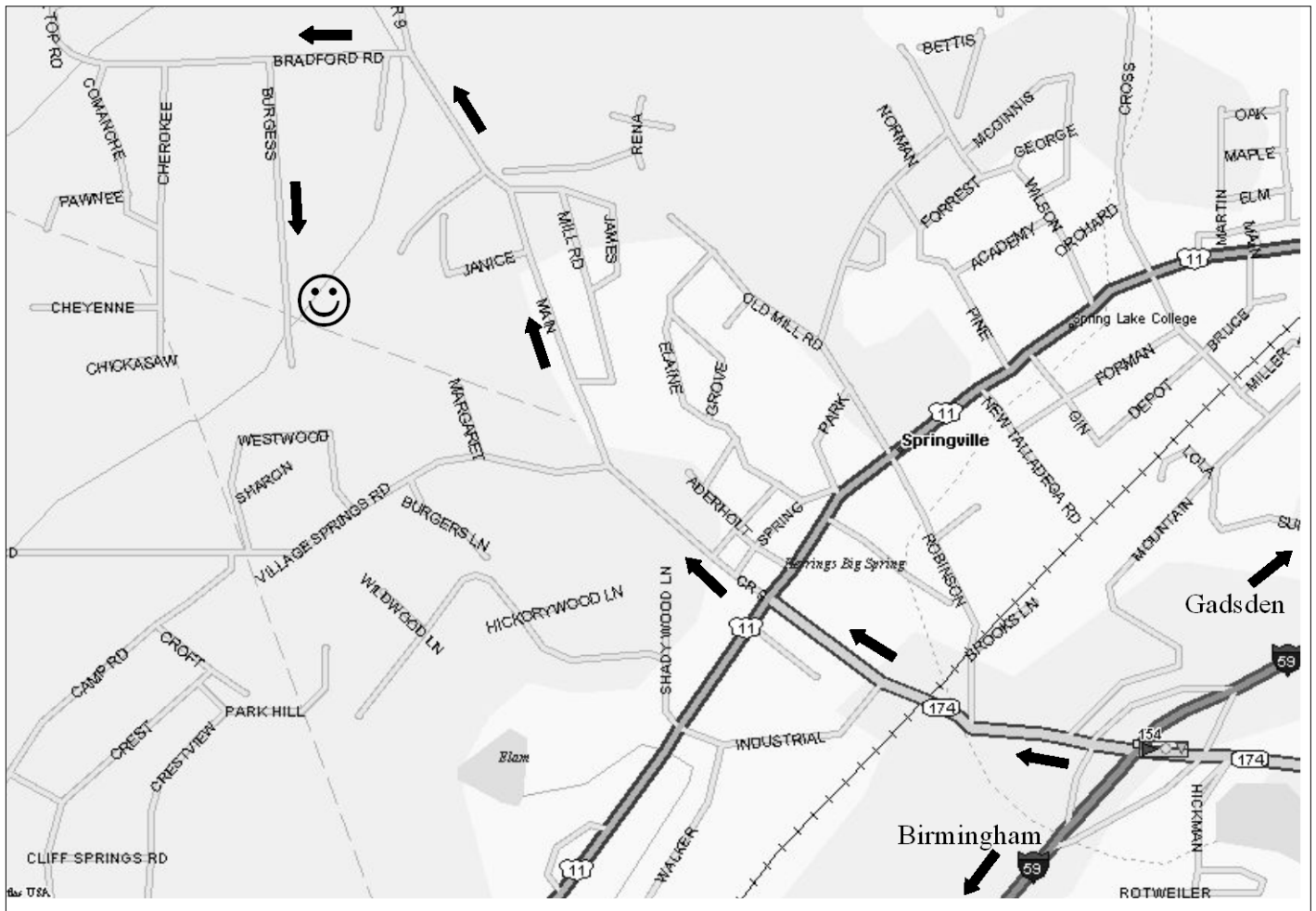
Big Daddy (Frank Ranelli) is to be arrested and is going to jail! That's right, on June 29<sup>th</sup> Big Daddy is going to jail at the Pickwick Center in the Pickwick Hotel. He has to raise at least \$500.00 in bail to get out and it's all going to a great cause. The St. Jude's children's hospital. Please help him get out by making a donation to St. Jude's (tax deductible of course). You can send your donation to Big Daddy c/o 2134 Warrior Road, Birmingham, AL 35208. Anything would be appreciated. Please help me to raise bail.

Thanks,  
Frank (Big Daddy) Ranelli



'62 El Corvino?

**PARTY! PARTY! PARTY! PARTY! PARTY! PARTY! PARTY! PARTY! PARTY! PARTY!**



## **Cookout & swim party at the Stoltzmann's 7/9/00, 2-? PM**

**376 Burgess Drive, Springville AL 467-6444**

Take I-59 North - exit 154 on to 174 west. Cross over railroad tracks. Go straight though 4-way stop on U.S.11. Go 1 mile on Murphee Valley Road, take left on to Bradford Road. Go ¼ mile, take left on to Burgess Drive. Go 1/3 mile, our mailbox is on the right with a horse on it.

### ***Another 'For Sale'***

1995 Honda Odyssey LX. This van is in perfect condition with 49,000 miles. New brakes and tires at 32k miles. See picture below. Selling because I bought a new Odyssey. \$13,900  
Russell Noble (205) 822-6092 (N); 257-7232 (D)





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*Norman Rodgers' 1965 Monza*



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# OIL DROP

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE VULCAN CORVAIR ENTHUSIASTS Vol 21, No 7

## July 2000

### *From the Prez*

Another trip to Springfest, Helen, GA, has come and gone. We had fewer folks from Birmingham attend this year, but still enjoyed the weekend. Harold and Louise Hartline, Buck and Jewel Hinkle, Jerry and Sarah Smith, John Hathaway, Charles and Jan Trotter, Norman Rodgers, and yours truly, along with Carol were in the group. I drove the '66 Corsa over 590 miles round trip, due to going by way of Huntsville and Chattanooga on the way up, and Rome, GA coming back.

As usual, there were some interesting Vairs to see, and it was good to see old friends again. Among those we had not seen in some time were Charlie and Ann Johns from Brewton, AL and Lee and Grace Mashburn from GA.

We want to again wish a fast recovery to Bob Siemens (shoulder surgery) and Owen Miller (leg injury).

Ed Keller

### *Correction*

Walt Davison also participated in the trip to Helen during April, driving his Ultravan!

### *Next Meeting:*

Date: Friday, June 16, 2000

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: Vestavia Hills Library on Hwy 31

Serving dinner for the hungry members will be Joyce and Owen Miller. The menu will be sandwiches and sides. Thanks folks!

### *Y2K Calendar of Events*

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- Nov. 3-4 British Car Show Chattanooga, TN

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- May 3-5, '01 AACA National Meet, Talladega Motor Speedway
- Jul. 25-28, '01 Corsa International Convention - Chicago

## Cruise-Ins

1<sup>st</sup> Sun - 1-4pm, Arby's @ Moody  
4<sup>th</sup> Sat - Night, Sonic @ Gardendale  
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## Minutes: VCE meeting 5/19/2000

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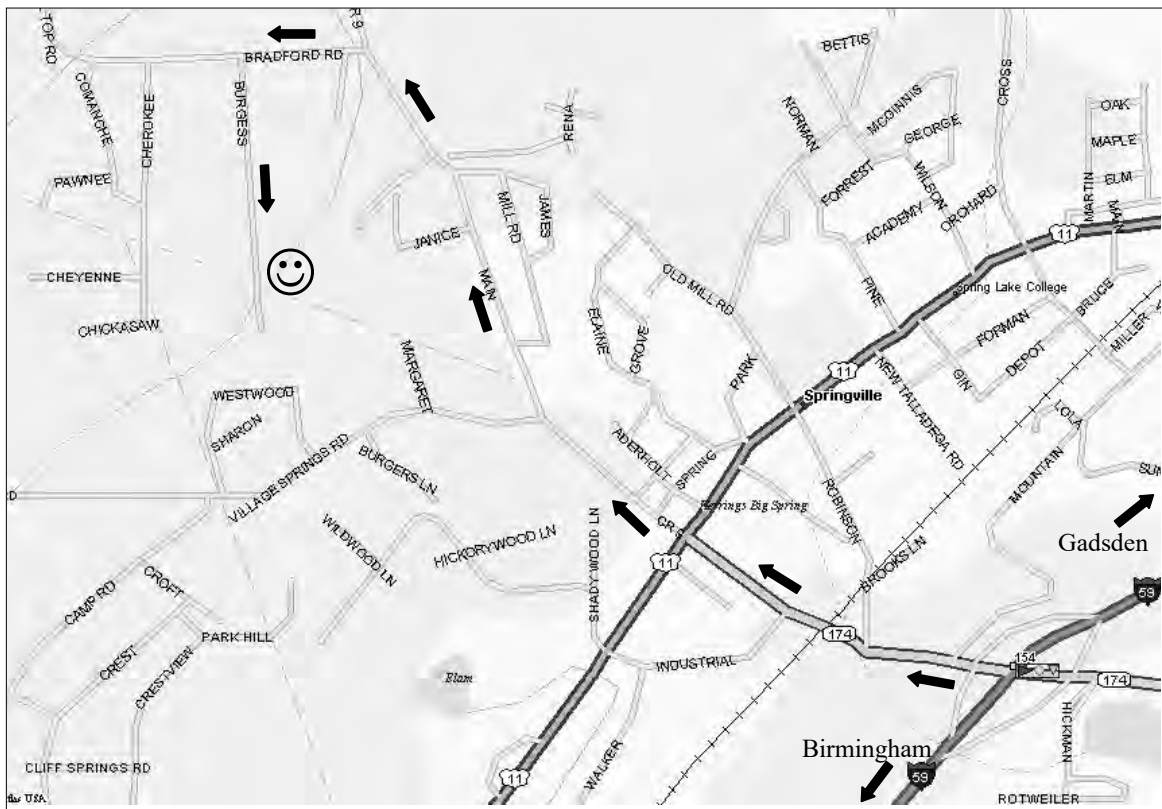
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Harold Hartline for Joe Doughty



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**Cookout & swim party at the Stoltzmann's 7/9/00, 2-? PM**

## *Corvair Love Affair*

This article sounds really familiar....

Dick Hull bought his first Corvair in '63 - and today he has at least 90

By Bart Ripp of *The News Tribune* 10/6/99

Happens all the time.

Dick Hull will be driving to work in Bremerton. He'll be at a red light in his white 1964 Corvair and somebody will pull up, smile, roll down the window and holler, "I used to have one of those."

Hull answers that he's got a few more in the back yard.

He's not sure how many Corvairs lurk in the woods behind his house in the Mason County city of Allyn, in adjacent garages and sheds, under trees and out yonder. His best guess is 90 Chevrolet Corvairs, ranging from running to rotting.

Doug Titus, president of CORSA Northwest, the area Corvair club, thinks Hull has more Chevrolet Corvairs than anybody around here.

"Dick's collection is legend," said Titus, a lawyer for the state who works in Olympia and lives in Seattle with 6 1/2 Corvairs.

The lore of this odd tub of a car, with an air-cooled engine in the rear and the trunk in the front, began 40 years ago this month. The first of nearly 1.8 million Corvairs rolled out of Detroit in October 1959.

The Corvair's endurance as an American icon can be traced to simple design and sturdy engineering that went unappreciated during the car's 10-year run.

"The Corvair is an incredibly people-friendly car," Titus said. "It's easy to operate and comfortable to drive. Basically, if you can repair one, you can fix them all. They just go and go and go."

Dick Hull went for the economy. Hull, 55, was living in Chicago, had just graduated from high school, had a wife and one son, and needed a car that he calls "ec-o-nom-i-cal."

On Dec. 13, 1963, a date Hull prefaces by noting it was Friday the 13th, he spotted a used 1962 Corvair Monza at the Nickey Chevrolet lot. The car was maroon, a hue called "artesian red" by Chevrolet.

"I got rid of my 409 Impala for a car with no power and noise that came from the back," Hull said. "But the Monza had Pos-I-Traction (a grabber of a differential), four-speed on the floor, bucket seats, dual carbs (carburetors) and everybody thought it was a big, hot car."

Hull was hooked. He began buying and selling Corvairs as casually as changing his socks. When he moved to Mason County in 1975, he had eight Corvairs. Then he got serious. Hull, an auto body estimator at Parr Ford in Bremerton, began finding Corvairs all over Western Washington.

"I'm not trying to get the most," Hull said. "I'm trying to drive 'em."

Monzas were the sporty models. Spyderys were turbocharged. Greenbriers were little vans. Lakewood was the station wagon. Rampside was a van with a ramp that popped out the side door.

The Corvair champion of Washington was a wheat farmer in Connell, Franklin County. Norm Welch owned 150 Corvairs. Welch died a few years back, and many of his Corvairs were sold at auction.

Hull's 90-car collection is remarkable in that he drove most of them. Among Harold LeMay's 2,464 cars in Pierce County are 42 Corvairs, but he doesn't drive them.

Hull's seven kids drive Corvairs. A fleet of Corvairs awaits the 10 grandchildren of Hull and his patient wife, Annette.

A '62 Greenbrier is parked in the woods. It squired three Hull boys - Dick Jr., Waynn and Todd - and their North Mason High School wrestling teammates to matches all over the state.

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205/823-5424

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*Jon & Sarah Keeton's 1963 Monza Coupe*



**Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts**  
**PO Box 59071**  
**Birmingham, AL 35259-9071**



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# OIL DROP

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE VULCAN CORVAIR ENTHUSIASTS Vol 21, No 8

## August 2000

### *From the Prez*

We got some big relief from the heat on July 9<sup>th</sup> with the pool party at the Stolzmann's. A big thanks to Richard and Sandy for hosting the event at their ranch. It was sure enough hot, so if you were prepared and brought your swimsuit, it was great. I know all of us grown 'kids' had fun in that really nice, large pool. A big shade tree helped for those that didn't want to get wet. The food was plentiful and tasty - thanks to all that helped out. I think I counted about 7 Corvairs and 35-40 folks. Fun!

The CORSA National Convention was last month and VCE had some members make the trip to Daytona. Harold Hartline has a report on the show inside this issue. Harold also is bringing a slide show and will report on the convention and associated tech sessions at the August meeting. Come on over to the library and check out what he has to tell.

I drove the Vair over to the Wal-Mart cruise-in in Pelham Saturday night. There were about 75 or so cars and trucks. Mine was the only Corvaire and it raised some eyebrows. I ran into Ed and Carol Keller in their '57 Ford. Nice car.

Russell Noble (subbing for Ed)

### *Next Meeting:*

Date: Friday, August 18, 2000

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: Vestavia Hills Library on Hwy 31

Serving a BBQ dinner for the VCE members will be Norman Rodgers (yes, Norman!), John Hathaway, and Harold Hartline. The menu will Q, beans, and slaw. Thanks guys!

### *Y2K Calendar of Events*

- Aug 19 Millenium Show - Leeds Park
- Aug 19 Fultondale Classic @ Black Creek Park
- Aug 26 Village Fun Run - Crestline
- Sep 9 5th Annual Corvaire Swap Meet @ Ted's Auto Body - Tucker, GA
- Sep. 16 Tour to Millard Young's - Piedmont, AL
- Sept 23 Run to the Mill Car Show - Tannehill
- Sep. 30 Petit LeMans at Road Atlanta
- Oct. 7 British car Show - Fairhope, AL
- Oct. 7-8 Car Show - Wings & Wheels - Bessemer Airport
- Oct. 20-22 Fall Corvaire Affair - Charlotte, NC
- Nov. 3-4 British Car Show Chattanooga, TN
- 2001-----
- May 3-5 AACA National Meet, Talladega Motor Speedway
- Jul. 25-28 Corsa International Convention - Chicago



## ***Cruise-Ins***

1<sup>st</sup> Sun - 1-4pm, Arby's @ Moody

4<sup>th</sup> Sat - Night, Sonic @ Gardendale

1<sup>st</sup> Sat - Walmart @ Pelham

2<sup>nd</sup> Sat - Burger King @ Center Point

3<sup>rd</sup> Sat - Arby's @ Trussville

4<sup>th</sup> Sat - Bessemer

## ***Minutes: VCE meeting 6/16/2000***

President Ed Keller called the meeting to order at 7:00PM

Refreshments were served by Owen and Joyce Miller. Their efforts were appreciated by all.

A swim party will be July 9<sup>th</sup> at Richard and Sandra Stolzmann's - Richard suggested that some should bring lawn chairs - Richard will furnish hamburgers and hot dogs but asked that others attending bring a dish. First off the grill will be at 2:00PM.

President Keller complemented our treasurer John Hathaway on the details of his reports. Other clubs have reported as "we took in money and we spent some money."

Refreshments for August will be furnished by Harold Hartline, Norman Rodgers, and John Hathaway. The fare will be bar-be-que and trimmings.

President Ed reported on the Barber Motor Sports facility now under construction. The race track is expected to be open in October of this year. Ed thinks the new motorcycle museum will be the most expensive in the world.

We will not be able to make an outing at the existing Barber Motor Sports museum since they charge a \$200 fee which for VCE is prohibitive.

Owen Miller reports that an acquaintance has a '61 sedan with lots of parts for sale at reasonable price.

Phil Harrod has a '65 air conditioned coupe for sale. It is a no rust, good car.

Russell Noble mentioned the tradition of furnishing food. General consensus was that the current practice will continue.

Upon a motion and second, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20PM..

Harold Hartline for Joe Doughty

## ***For Sale***

Owner: Elton Sewell 334/277-6776  
Montgomery, AL

1961 Monza, 4-door, auto, AC(?), blue with white top. New parts included but not installed: weather-stripping for all doors, door panels, carpet, gas tank, gas lines, vent window rubber/trim. Seat covers front and rear already installed.

\$1168 in new parts + 600 paid for car = \$1768  
Mr. Sewell is 78 years of age and can not finish this project. He will take \$800.00 for all.

## ***National Convention - Harold Hartline***

This year's CORSA national convention was held July 18 thru 22<sup>nd</sup> at Daytona Beach Florida. VCE club was represented by five members: Walt Davison, Norman Rodgers, Curtis Hare, Bob Siemens, and Harold Hartline.

I understand that 1600 plus attended. That has to be close to a record. The host hotel was on the beach and made a beautiful place for the gathering.

The turn out of really excellent cars was impressive. Most of the car activity was at Daytona Speedway.

In addition to car activity - concours, race, rally, etc. - there were excellent tech sessions by people such as Richard Finch and Smokie Unic. Needless to say all the parts vendors were set up in a huge hall with a really good selection of parts.

I was a bit surprised at the number of younger people, all the way down to teenagers who attended. Still a lot of old timers but it was encouraging to see all the new faces.

Other than a heat index of 110°F it was an excellent convention in a location which had something to offer everyone.

Bob and I drove our '66 Monza convertible which has the original GM engine never touched except for 'o' rings. It shows about 135,000 miles. For all I can tell it seems to be ready for another 135,000.

Harold Hartline

## *Corvair Love Affair*

This article sounds really familiar....

Dick Hull bought his first Corvair in '63 - and today he has at least 90

By Bart Ripp of *The News Tribune* 10/6/99

Happens all the time.

Dick Hull will be driving to work in Bremerton. He'll be at a red light in his white 1964 Corvair and somebody will pull up, smile, roll down the window and holler, "I used to have one of those."

Hull answers that he's got a few more in the back yard.

He's not sure how many Corvairs lurk in the woods behind his house in the Mason County city of Allyn, in adjacent garages and sheds, under trees and out yonder. His best guess is 90 Chevrolet Corvairs, ranging from running to rotting.

Doug Titus, president of CORSA Northwest, the area Corvair club, thinks Hull has more Chevrolet Corvairs than anybody around here.

"Dick's collection is legend," said Titus, a lawyer for the state who works in Olympia and lives in Seattle with 6 1/2 Corvairs.

The lore of this odd tub of a car, with an air-cooled engine in the rear and the trunk in the front, began 40 years ago this month. The first of nearly 1.8 million Corvairs rolled out of Detroit in October 1959.

The Corvair's endurance as an American icon can be traced to simple design and sturdy engineering that went unappreciated during the car's 10-year run.

"The Corvair is an incredibly people-friendly car," Titus said. "It's easy to operate and comfortable to drive. Basically, if you can repair one, you can fix them all. They just go and go and go."

Dick Hull went for the economy. Hull, 55, was living in Chicago, had just graduated from high school, had a wife and one son, and needed a car that he calls "ec-o-nom-i-cal."

On Dec. 13, 1963, a date Hull prefaces by noting it was Friday the 13th, he spotted a used 1962 Corvair Monza at the Nickey Chevrolet lot. The car was maroon, a hue called "artesian red" by Chevrolet.

"I got rid of my 409 Impala for a car with no power and noise that came from the back," Hull said. "But the Monza had Pos-I-Traction (a grabber of a differential), four-speed on the floor, bucket seats, dual carbs (carburetors) and everybody thought it was a big, hot car."

Hull was hooked. He began buying and selling Corvairs as casually as changing his socks. When he moved to Mason County in 1975, he had eight Corvairs. Then he got serious. Hull, an auto body estimator at Parr Ford in Bremerton, began finding Corvairs all over Western Washington.

"I'm not trying to get the most," Hull said. "I'm trying to drive 'em."

Monzas were the sporty models. Spyderys were turbocharged. Greenbriers were little vans. Lakewood was the station wagon. Rampside was a van with a ramp that popped out the side door.

The Corvair champion of Washington was a wheat farmer in Connell, Franklin County. Norm Welch owned 150 Corvairs. Welch died a few years back, and many of his Corvairs were sold at auction.

Hull's 90-car collection is remarkable in that he drove most of them. Among Harold LeMay's 2,464 cars in Pierce County are 42 Corvairs, but he doesn't drive them.

Hull's seven kids drive Corvairs. A fleet of Corvairs awaits the 10 grandchildren of Hull and his patient wife, Annette.

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*The very cool "SUPER SPYDER"*



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THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE VULCAN CORVAIR ENTHUSIASTS Vol 21, No 9

# September 2000

## *From the Prez*

We finally have some cooler weather, and hopefully, this will inspire some restoration and/or repairs to our Vairs that have been postponed due to the brutally hot temps. Looking ahead, the annual trip to Millard Young's is Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>. This is always an enjoyable drive and relaxing time to eat, fellowship and enjoy old cars.

On the technical side, it might be comforting to know that we Vair owners/drivers are not the only ones to experience some difficult repairs. I recently came across this 'tech' article in one of the newsletters I receive. I believe much of the info is very similar to some of the projects we have to attempt. (See page 2)

Ed Keller

## *Next Meeting:*

Date: Friday, September 15, 2000

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: Vestavia Hills Library on Hwy 31

Serving a pizza dinner for the VCE members will be John Keeton, Richard Stolzmann, and Russell Noble. Thanks to all that help with providing food/drinks every month!

## *Y2K Calendar of Events*

- Sep. 16 Tour to Millard Young's - Piedmont, AL
- Sep 23 Run to the Mill Car Show - Tannehill
- Sep. 30 Petit LeMans at Road Atlanta
- Oct. 1 Fall River Run Open Car Show - Chattanooga, TN
- Oct. 7 British car Show - Fairhope, AL
- Oct. 7 Landmark Car Show - Dothan, AL
- Oct. 7-8 Car Show - Wings & Wheels - Bessemer Airport
- Oct. 20-22 Fall Corvaire Affair - Charlotte, NC
- Nov. 3-4 British Car Show Chattanooga, TN
- Dec ? VCE Christmas Party to be @ the Doughty's beautiful new home

-----2001-----

- May 3-5 AACA National Meet, Talladega Motor Speedway
- Jul. 25-28 Corsa International Convention - Chicago

## *Cruise-Ins*

- 1<sup>st</sup> Sun - 1-4pm, Arby's @ Moody
- 1<sup>st</sup> Sat - Walmart @ Pelham
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- 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat - Burger King @ Center Point
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat - Arby's @ Trussville
- 4<sup>th</sup> Sat - Walmart, Academy Dr. Bessemer
- 4<sup>th</sup> Sat - Night, Sonic @ Gardendale



## LOTUS SERVICE TIPS

Many of you know that I recently did a frame change on my Lotus Elan +2. Yes, it was as much work as you might think. No, I'm still happily married. Lotus restoration is chock full of all the wonderful, zen-inducing experiences common to all English car work that are not often seen when working on German cars. French and Italian cars are about as much fun, but you have to smoke unfiltered cigarettes and shrug a lot more.

Following is an excerpt from the Lotus technical manual that I thought you all might enjoy. Thanks to Club Lotus England.

### **REMOVING, OVERHAULING, AND RESETTING THE THRAMP, Part No. 24728198 left.**

**NOTE:** This refers to later model Thramps as fitted to Lotus cars from 1966 until the present day. The work should only be carried out in conjunction with a full workshop manual (out of print) so this is an outline instruction.

**TOOLS:** You will need a Thramp gasket set, Thramp repair kit or a new Thramp assembly complete with diode and tensioner springs. The latter components are common to a JCB Mini Digger or Ransome Major Motor Mower or national Coal Board Type 262 conveyor belt Thramp.

**REMOVAL:** Jack up the car and secure it on piles of soft bricks, tree stumps, or Taiwanese self-bending pressed tin DIY ramps. Remove the body from the chassis following the workshop manual instructions. Approach the Thramp with the Thramp remover held behind your back until the last minute so as to take it by surprise. Thrust the remover strongly to the left rounding off the machined edges of the Thramp and allowing the Thramp remover to fly off into the darkest dirtiest, and least accessible corner of the garage. One may wish to rent a specially trained Thramp remover retriever dog from your local dealership to speed the process. If you have trouble surprising your Thramp, attempt the work at night in total darkness.

With the Thramp on the bench in a good vise, with an eight-ton hydraulic ram and a twelve-foot length of pipe you will be able to remove the thrust base, the tension rocker arm, and then the pre-loaded, spline-shanked coupling, being careful to retain the seventy-two small springs and detante ball bearings in their channels. Next remove the Thramp bearing retainer with a plasma cutter or two grams of plastic explosive. Finally, with the body of the Thramp casing in your left hand insert the replacement plunger (wide end of the seal first), grommet, and tensioner springs while screwing the Thramp retainer caps on both ends with your toes.

**RESETTING THE THRAMP** - Assembly is the reverse of disassembly.

**NOTE** - A temporary Thramp repair can be affected by straining STP oil additive through a sock and dripping it into the Thramp via the interior ashtray. Winding bailing wire and duct tape around the Thramp housing in the area above the exhaust and below the transmission will quiet the Thramp adequately to sell the car.

### ***For Sale***

I got a call from a "Donna" the other day and she said her uncle, Glenn Tibbs, had died and left behind a nice Corvair for her to sell. I will try to get out to Alabaster and look at it before the meeting. This is what I know:

1965 Monza  
2dr coupe  
110 HP, PG  
Dark blue paint, good  
White interior, very good  
Runs  
Phone: 205/621-1371



### ***Email Address Update***

This is the latest list I have. If you now have email, let me know so I can put you on the list.

Jim Black*	JBLACK@Acipco.com
Roy Dutton	Datalore16@Yahoo.com
Mike Donley	m_donley@knology.net
Phil Harrod	PHarrod532@aol.com
Jon Keeton	CUDAMAN@Prodigy.net (Sarah)
Carol Keller	ckell1218@mindspring.com (Ed)
Joyce Miller	RetiredCouple@Juno.com (Owen)
Russell Noble	rtnoble@southernco.com (Debbie)
Frank Ranelli	VAIR3@Bellsouth.net (Sheila)
Chris Rothe	Kt4ys@worldnet.att.net (Frannie)
Sarah Smith	sarah.smith7@worldnet.att.net (Jerry)
Richard Stolzmann	RStolzmann@IBM.Net (Sandy)
Bill Thurman*	WThurmanii@aol.com (Mary Alice)
Jan Trotter	JANTROTT@GTE.NET (Charles)
Muffet Wiles	muffetww@aol.com
Tom Wiles	tom123123@aol.com

\*Former members

## VCE Member List - September 2000

Harry & Pat Babyock  
3103 Meadowbrook Trail  
Birmingham, AL 35242  
205-980-9383

Peggy Bagby  
8177 Cedar Mountain Road  
Pinson, AL 35126  
205-681-7014

Walt & Marilyn Davison  
156 Summer Place Lane  
Sylacauga, AL 35150  
256-245-9728

Mike Donley  
8 Hibiscus Drive  
Montgomery, AL 36109  
334-272-7793

Joe & Rozelle Doughty  
324 North Lake Road  
Birmingham, AL 35242  
205-995-0131

Charlie & Marie Drake  
6454 New Castle Road  
Morris, AL 35116  
205-681-7143

Roy Dutton  
PO Box 458  
Adamsville, AL 35005

Larry Gulsby  
915 Roywood Road  
Irondale, AL 35210  
205-956-3166

Curtis Hare  
3707 Havenview Circle  
Birmingham, AL 35216  
205-823-2165

Phil Harrod  
99 Olympic drive  
Wetumpka, AL 35023

Jerry S. Hart  
PO Box 249  
Centre, AL 35960

Harold & Louise Hartline  
1920 Longview Drive  
Hueytown, AL 35023  
205-491-5253

Phil & Carol Hartline  
905 Echo Trail  
Warrior, AL 35180  
205-590-0141

John Hathaway  
1406 Highland Lakes Trail  
Birmingham, AL 35242  
205-408-4063

Buck & Jewell Hinkle  
4142 Terrace R West  
Birmingham, AL 35208  
205-780-0549

Jon & Sarah Keeton  
2008 Elkwood Drive  
Fultondale, AL 35068  
205-841-5169

Ed & Carol Keller  
2461 Jannebo Road  
Birmingham, AL 35216  
205-823-5424

Ethel Mae Lankford  
116 Chandler Drive  
Alabaster, AL 35007  
205-620-6848

David & Amy Langner  
113 Munger Circle  
Trussville, AL 35173  
205-655-9445

George & Ann Miljus  
3520 Belle Meade Way  
Birmingham, AL 35223  
205-972-1385

Owen & Joyce Miller  
601 Avondale Road  
Montgomery, AL 36109  
334-272-7085

Wayne & Judy Moore  
10731 Albert Sanders Road  
Northport, AL 35473  
205-759-2841

Russell & Debbie Noble  
3416 Danner Circle  
Birmingham, AL 35243  
205-822-6092

Joseph & Carol Popinski  
212 Maple Trace  
Birmingham, AL 35244  
205-978-1780

Frank Ranelli  
1725 Hendrix Drive  
Birmingham, AL 35214  
205-798-3787

Norman Rodgers  
408 South Broad Street  
Albertville, AL 35211  
205-878-1810

Chris & Francis Rothe  
104 Gardenia Circle  
Pleasant Grove, AL 35127  
205-744-2072

Bob & Wilma Siemens  
1725 Buck Island Drive  
Guntersville, AL 35976  
205-582-2175

Jerry & Sarah Smith  
595 Browning Road  
Odenville, AL 35120  
205-640-6952

Grant & Mary Snead  
4427 Ridgewood Road East  
Tuscaloosa, AL 35404  
205-553-4210

Floyd T. Snider  
4960 Big Oak Drive  
Southside, AL 35907

Joe & Ann Steadman  
1629 Arrowhead Road  
Jasper, AL 35504  
205-384-9576

Richard & Sandy Stolzmann  
376 Burgess drive  
Springville, AL 35146  
205-467-6444

Charles & Jan Trotter  
102 Allen Road  
Pell City, AL 35125  
205-338-6828

Hugh & Sara White  
1411 Gonzales Street  
Pensacola, FL 32510  
904-432-5974

Tom & Muffet Wiles  
729H Sunhill Road  
Birmingham, AL 35215  
205-853-2085

Dick & Barbara Witkos  
3112 Clayburne Road  
Dothan, AL 36303  
334-792-8528



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*Russell and Debbie Noble's 1965 Corsa*



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THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE VULCAN CORVAIR ENTHUSIASTS Vol 21, No 10

# October 2000

## *From the Prez*

The weekend of Oct. 6-8 was the annual weekend at the fair put on by the Heart of Georgia Club. We had seven couples making the trip, plus Walt Davison in his Ultravan, giving us a total of 15 people from VCE. The rain cleared out by Friday afternoon and Saturday was a nice day, with clear skies and cool temperatures. This fair at Perry has changed very little during the past 6-8 years, and is always interesting. Owen Miller was the big winner at the door prize drawings Saturday night - a full set of tires for a Vair. Wonder which Buick Owen is going to put them on. The food was good, and our thanks to Heart of Georgia Vairs for once again putting on this Shindig.

**Notice!! Christmas Party Date** - Due to a conflict that Joe and Rozelle have, the date for the Christmas party has been moved to Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup>.

Ed Keller

## *Cruise-Ins*

3<sup>rd</sup> Sat - Arby's @ Trussville

4<sup>th</sup> Sat - Walmart, Academy Dr. Bessemer

4<sup>th</sup> Sat - Night, Sonic @Gardendale

## *Next Meeting:*

Date: Friday, October 20, 2000

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: Vestavia Hills Library on Hwy 31

Bob Siemens, Ed Keller, and Frank Ranelli will be serving dinner for the VCE members at the meeting. The menu is rumored to be lasagna. See you there!

## *Tech Session*

Walt Davison has volunteered to do a tech session at the October meeting. He will be bringing his instruments and will demonstrate how to evaluate the condition of a camshaft. Thanks to Walt for providing this info.

## *Y2K Calendar of Events*

Oct. 20-22 Fall Corvair Affair - Charlotte, NC

Nov. 3-4 British Car Show Chattanooga, TN

Dec 8 VCE Christmas Party to be @ the Doughty's beautiful new home

-----2001-----

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Jul. 25-28 Corsa International Convention - Chicago

## *For Sale*

1965 Monza 4-door hard top. 51,000 actual miles. Excellent rust free body. Extra nice original interior. 140 engine. Restoration started - also parts car included. All for \$1000 or best offer. For details call Jerry Smith (205) 640-6952.

## ***VCE Meeting Minutes of 9/16/2000***

John Hathaway gave a treasurer's report showing a balance of \$835.31.

The annual tour to Millard Young's car show in Piedmont will be held Saturday, September 16.

Christmas Party - Saturday night December 16<sup>th</sup> at Joe and Rozelle Doughty's home at 6:30. (note: at printing time this date has been changed)

President Ed Keller appointed a nominating committee chaired by Jewel Hinkle with Harold Hartline and Ed Keller serving on the committee.

The Warner Robbins trip was discussed.

Gerald Coker visited and was welcomed to the group.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm

Submitted by Harold Hartline

---

### ***BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY***

**DESCRIPTION:** Start-up Corvair restoration & parts business seeking working partner familiar with all aspects of Corvair repair. First stage to acquire shop/warehouse facility to store cars and conduct service and sales business. Live in beautiful resort area Hilton Head Island, SC and enjoy golf, beach, and year round moderate temperatures (no snow!) Please contact via e-mail for more details at [turbovair@aol.com](mailto:turbovair@aol.com)  
**CONTACT:** Doug Gilman 843-363-5900

### ***Strange Motor***

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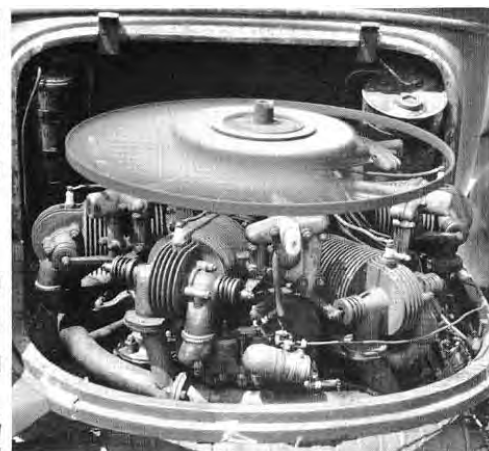
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Notice: Walt is looking for a loose pinion shaft/gear to use in the CORSA tech sessions he is organizing for next year's convention.

... SO  
what's  
new?

78

40 years ago  
the JULIAN  
featured a  
rear-mounted,  
air-cooled engine!



## 2000 Corsa Convention - Daytona Beach, FL

These photos were emailed in by Bob Siemens. Just a taste of the convention trip that Bob, Harold, Walt, Norman and Curtis made this past July.



*Harold Hartline is getting warmed up to entertain the lucky convention folks with his ivory tapping skills...*



*Oh yes, the beach.*



*Bob Siemens gets in a little face time with Smokey*



*Chromed out Turbo!*



*Cars!*

*Cars!*

*Cars!*





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President: Ed Keller

205/823-5424

Vice President: Jon Keeton

205/841-5169

VP/Membership/Newsletter: Russell Noble

205/822-6092

Secretary: Joe Doughty

205/853-0434

Treasurer: John Hathaway

205/408-4063

Hospitality: Jon & Sarah Keeton

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*Ed and Carol Keller's "Daily Driver" 1962 Monza!*



**Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts**  
**PO Box 59071**  
**Birmingham, AL 35259-9071**



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# OIL DROP

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE VULCAN CORVAIR ENTHUSIASTS Vol 21, No 11

## November 2000

### *From the Prez*

Joe Doughty has furnished a map to their house - save your copy - so you can use it Friday night, Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> for the Christmas Party. We have not been diligent about putting a classified section in our newsletter. If everyone will be sure to let Russell Noble know what parts or cars they have for sale or wanted, we can put this in each month. Don't forget that this newsletter goes out to many other clubs, and is read by at least some of their membership. See you at the meeting Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>.

Ed Keller

### *Fried Chicken Run to Tallassee*

- Sunday morning, Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> -

Six hardy folks in three Corvairs traveled to Tallassee, AL via Sylacauga and a nice break at Walt Davison's. Walt treated us to "grits a-la-Walt" and coffee, tea or juice at his home. He gave us an art tour and some lively conversation as well as meeting some of his interesting friends who traveled across the country in an Ultravan. Thanks, Walt.

We traveled on with our convertible tops down and the wind in our faces down two lane roads

through Wetumpka and finally to Tallassee. Joyce and Owen Miller joined us there from Montgomery. We enjoyed wonderful fried chicken and fresh vegetables, topped off with homemade pies from the Talisi Hotel. We found a different route on the return trip. The 'Vairs operated without incident. All in all, it was a delightful trip on a warm sunny day in our hobby cars. Traveling from Birmingham were Jon and Sarah Keeton, Peggy Bagby, Frank Ranelli, and Ed and Carol Keller.

Carol Keller

### *Next Meeting:*

Date: Friday, November 17, 2000

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: Vestavia Hills Library on Hwy 31

This is going to be a big meal. Peggy Bagby, Sarah Keeton and Harold Hartline are putting on a surprise menu. No rumors of what this will be. I guess you will have to come to the meeting and find out. See you there!

### *Y2K Calendar of Events*

Dec 8 VCE Christmas Party to be @ the  
Doughty's beautiful new home

-----2001-----

Feb ? West Florida Event at Navarre Beach

May 3-5 AACA National Meet, Talladega Motor  
Speedway

Jul 25-28 Corsa International Convention -  
Chicago

## ***VCE Meeting Minutes of 10/20/2000***

The meeting was held at 7:00 P.M. at the Vestavia library. A great meal was served by Bob Siemens, Ed Keller and Frank Ranelli.

Following the meal, President Ed Keller stated that since the minutes of the meeting of September 15, 2000 were published in the newsletter they would be approved as written unless there were corrections. There were none.

Treasurer, John Hathaway reported that we had a bank balance of \$629.84 as of 10/20/2000.

It was reported that Charles and Jan Trotter have a 1965 Monza 4-door hardtop with a 140 engine for sale with Jerry Smith handling the sale.

David Langner reported on the progress of his restoration of a 1965 convertible he plans to complete in time for his 14 year old daughter to drive when she gets her license.

Mickey Hunter reported on his 1964 convertible project that he is working on with some help from father-in-law Harold Hartline.

President Keller called for the election of officers for the year 2001.

President Keller asked for any nominations from the floor. Since there were none he asked for a vote on the proposed slate as presented by the nominating committee. (*Note: there is some confusion on the slate offered by nominating committee of Jewel Hinkle, Harold Hartline and Ed Keller...this will be cleared at the Nov meeting. Editor*)

A motion was made by Bob Siemens and seconded by Sarah Smith that the slate of officers presented by the nominating committee be elected as presented. The motion carried.

It was announced that the Christmas party will be held at the home of Rozelle and Joe Doughty on Friday, December 8, 2000 at 6:30 P.M.

A possible trip to Tallassee for lunch at the old hotel was discussed.

The meeting was adjourned to be followed by a tech session on testing and checking cams to be put on by Walt Davison.

Submitted by Joe Doughty

## ***From the Editor***

As Ed has mentioned, the club needs to get a classifieds section active and alive. There are many members that have tons of parts/cars sitting around that could probably be put to good use by those working on projects. It is good to hear about the active projects reported by David Langner and Harold Hartline. I also know that Gerald Coker is reworking a 1963 convertible. This shows that although many in VCE have very nice cars/trucks already restored, there are folks out there still dealing with the ins and outs of getting a vehicle back in top shape. So if you have extra parts, or are working on a car and need specific parts, lets get the word out through the classifieds.

Russell

---

### ***\*\*\*\*\* VCE Classifieds \*\*\*\*\****

#### ***For Sale***

1965 Monza 4-door hard top. 51,000 actual miles. Excellent rust free body. Extra nice original interior. 140 engine. Restoration started - also parts car included. All for \$1000 or best offer. For details call Jerry Smith (205) 640-6952.

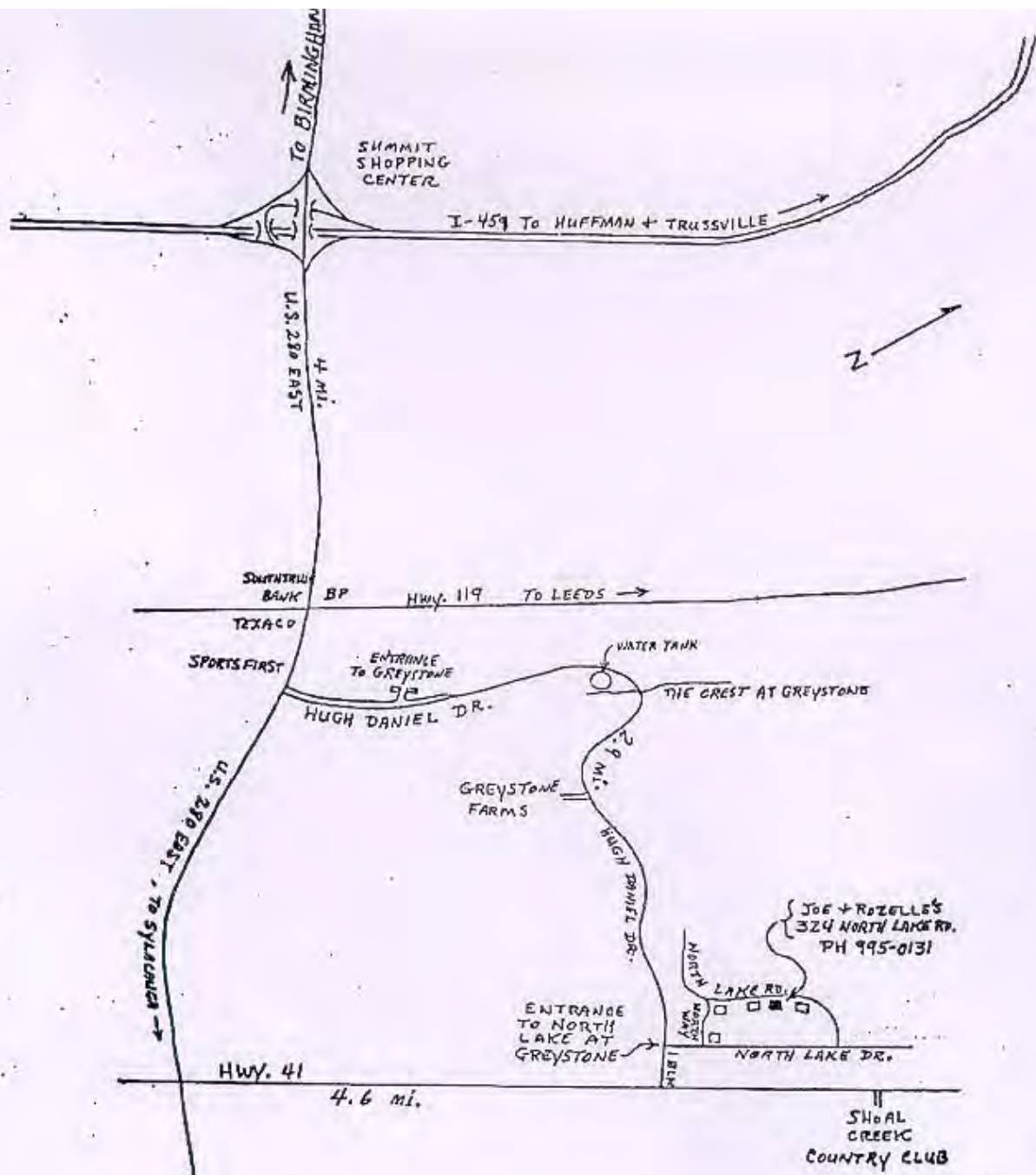
#### ***For Sale***

1964 Monza convertible. Recent saddle bronze paint and white top. New WSW tires, wire caps, good brakes. Floorboards have been cleaned, rustproofed, and primed. Underside cleaned and painted. Runs good. Was original factory air car. Have all parts to restore A/C. Needs new interior. \$3,400 OBO. Ed Keller (205) 823-5424

#### ***Wanted***

Walt Davison (256-245-9728) is looking for a loose pinion shaft/gear to use in the CORSA tech sessions he is organizing for next year's convention.





**DIRECTIONS** Joe & Rozelle Doughty's  
**TO:** 324 North Lake Road

PH (205) 995-0131  
 GATE CODE: #1207

From downtown Birmingham take Hwy. 280 East and proceed to junction with I-459 (by Summit shopping center).

Continue down Hwy. 280, setting your trip meter to zero as you pass over I-459 and go approx. 4 miles to Hugh Daniel Drive. Hugh Daniel is next traffic light past intersection of Hwy. 119 and 280 (Sports First fitness center is on your right and Hugh Daniel sign on cable over 280).

Turn left onto Hugh Daniel Dr., again setting trip meter to zero and proceed up over Oak Mountain and down other side for a total of approx. 2.9 miles (very narrow and winding road so be careful).

\* Turn left into North Lake at Greystone subdivision at guard shack (note: entrance is on North Lake Dr., we are on North Lake Rd.).

Turn left again just past guard shack onto North Way and go one block to stop sign.

Turn right at stop sign onto North Lake Road. We are 3rd house on right (just past yellow brick house). Our house number (324) is on mail box.

\* Note: Gate to subdivision usually closes at 6 P.M. If you arrive after this time just key in on the key pad at the gate the above gate code and gate will open. When you leave just drive slowly up to the outgoing side and the gate will automatically open.

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OIL



DROP

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE VULCAN CORVAIR ENTHUSIASTS Vol 21, No 12

# December 2000

## *From the Prez*

The weekend of Oct. 6-8 was the annual weekend at the fair put on by the Heart of Georgia Club. We had seven couples making the trip, plus Walt Davison in his Ultravan, giving us a total of 15 people from VCE. The rain cleared out by Friday afternoon and Saturday was a nice day, with clear skies and cool temperatures. This fair at Perry has changed very little during the past 6-8 years, and is always interesting. Owen Miller was the big winner at the door prize drawings Saturday night - a full set of tires for a Vair. Wonder which Buick Owen is going to put them on. The food was good, and our thanks to Heart of Georgia Vairs for once again putting on this Shindig.

**Notice!! Christmas Party Date** - Due to a conflict that Joe and Rozelle have, the date for the Christmas party has been moved to Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup>.

Ed Keller

## *Cruise-Ins*

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat - Arby's @ Trussville
- 4<sup>th</sup> Sat - Walmart, Academy Dr. Bessemer
- 4<sup>th</sup> Sat - Night, Sonic @Gardendale

## *Next Meeting:*

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## *Tech Session*

Walt Davison has volunteered to do a tech session at the October meeting. He will be bringing his instruments and will demonstrate how to evaluate the condition of a camshaft. Thanks to Walt for providing this info.

## *Y2K Calendar of Events*

Nov. 3-4 British Car Show Chattanooga, TN

Dec 8 VCE Christmas Party to be @ the Doughty's beautiful new home

-----2001-----

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## ***VCE Meeting Minutes of 9/16/2000***

John Hathaway gave a treasurer's report showing a balance of \$835.31.

The annual tour to Millard Young's car show in Piedmont will be held Saturday, September 16.

Christmas Party - Saturday night December 16<sup>th</sup> at Joe and Rozelle Doughty's home at 6:30. (note: at printing time this date has been changed)

President Ed Keller appointed a nominating committee chaired by Jewel Hinkle with Harold Hartline and Ed Keller serving on the committee.

The Warner Robbins trip was discussed.

Gerald Coker visited and was welcomed to the group.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm

Submitted by Harold Hartline

---

### ***BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY***

**DESCRIPTION:** Start-up Corvair restoration & parts business seeking working partner familiar with all aspects of Corvair repair. First stage to acquire shop/warehouse facility to store cars and conduct service and sales business. Live in beautiful resort area Hilton Head Island, SC and enjoy golf, beach, and year round moderate temperatures (no snow!) Please contact via e-mail for more details at [turbovair@aol.com](mailto:turbovair@aol.com)  
**CONTACT:** Doug Gilman 843-363-5900

### ***Strange Motor***

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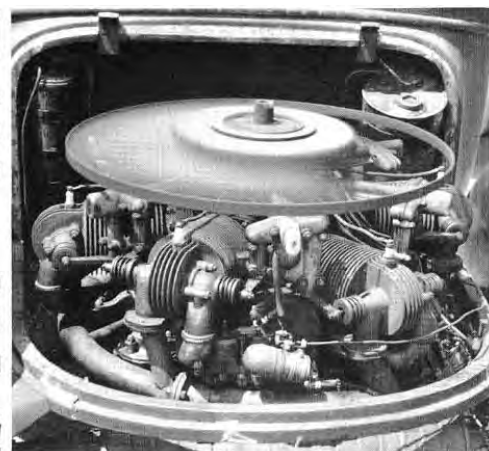
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## Interesting Article on Reformulated Gasoline by Brent Covey via *The Corvair Center's "Forum"*

10/9/00

Hi everyone-

The posting below about the gas tank sealants got me thinking I should remind people about the other aspects related to reformulated fuels-

I understand the entire US is currently using reformulated gasoline now, there's a few different blends and proportions of oxygenates used in different areas, from very little in most places to 14% MTBE content in California. The refiners have a couple different chemicals they can use for oxygenates but MTBE is the most common. In Canada MTBE is never used however most of the MTBE used in the western US is made by a Canadian company, it's manufactured from natural gas.

All of these chemicals have common characteristics, to be an oxygenate, they have to create a chemical reaction during combustion that helps oxidize the fuel molecules and help them burn completely. This means they contain oxygen compounds that are liberated when they burn.

The downside of this is fuels containing oxygenates will oxidize everything they touch or come in contact with- rust is iron oxide for example- and things like rubber fuel line hoses and most materials will be effected from this oxidation. This is a problem, fuel line hoses are only considered safe for 3 years max by the current SAE spec. People have to be very careful to inspect and routinely replace rubber gas line and filler pipe hoses and watch out on the big tank sender O-ring etc for premature deterioration. This kind of stuff used to quite reliably last 10-20 years on older fuels but those days are gone. We will not be getting the same service out of fuel pumps and carb seals we once did either. Usually most seal materials will swell and soften on the new gasolines, but very old straight neoprene hoses just shrink and crack.

Another attribute of oxygenated fuels is that the compounds used as oxygenates all attract water very strongly. MTBE is rapidly becoming famous on this score, as it likes to permeate drinking water supplies and isn't broken down in the environment well, which gasoline and alcohols are. In your car, this means gas tanks are more apt to pick up water, whether in the car or at the filling station- and as the fuel evaporates, you'll be left with more water than the gasoline can hold and have water contamination problems. Water in the carbs will be more common than ever, so watch for it if your car starts running poorly for no real reason.

You'll also find the new fuels leave a very persistent deposit if allowed to dry out. I'd make a point of running a car right out of fuel before long term storage, to minimize problems in this department.

The good news is the new gas has so much detergent that carbs get cleaner as you drive now;-) Oxygenates are also very good octane enhancing compounds and will boost octane in even small amounts.

Oxygenates do contain significantly less thermal energy than gasoline, and especially less than compounds like benzene and toluene that used to be in gasolines in large amounts. What this means is depending on the content used in your fuel, the gas is 'weaker'. A gallon of California gasoline is only 85% gas now, most of the remainder is MTBE. Because MTBE doesn't have the explosive energy of gasoline, you'll need to burn more fuel for the same performance. You won't need 15% more, but you will need somewhat more than the car is jetted to provide. Cars with carburetors and fixed metering systems like early FI with no oxygen sensors will need mixture strengths strengthened to work like they're designed to on the reformulated fuels. In general terms most older GM cars need a main jet about 3 sizes richer to retain the original performance levels. In places like California that are largely low altitude and very hot and have very weak fuels, even greater changes may be needed.

I've been seeing a lot of older GM cars with QuadraJets in CA flunking emissions inspections because they've leaned out so far the carbs need significant changes to have clean exhaust. If you have a car that has persistent high HC emissions on inspections (anything over 100ppm is pretty high) you might explore a richer main jet and or opening up idle limiter provisions in your carb. Corvair engines, particularly 1965-'67 95 and 110 HP are extraordinarily clean on smog tests if everything's working well. Most 1965-'69 Corvair engines could pass a 1981 new car standard if tuned to a fare thee well.

Anyhow, the message is- you can expect fuel system leaks to be a regular problem now, and you'll need to spend a lot more effort on maintaining perishable fuel system components than you are used to. You also may have to recalibrate the carbs a little to make the car run well and efficiently, and to pass smog testing you may have to make further changes.

One last thing- it is worthwhile if you are parking cars to park on a surface that a fuel leak can be absorbed into. Unpainted concrete or gravel is much safer than a shiny or blacktop surface if a leak develops. You want to gas to soak away where it can't ignite hopefully. When working on fuel system parts make sure you park with the car's nose pointed downhill too, so gravity doesn't allow it to leak from disconnected parts. And last of all, NEVER use an electric light when working on a gas tank or in areas where fuel could even have a remote chance of splashing. Use a mirror or piece of cardboard covered in tinfoil etc to reflect light where you need it. Hope this is interesting, *Brent*