



# The Oil Drop



Volume 26, Issue 1

The Official Newsletter of the Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts

January 2005

## Next Meeting



Due to several members making the trip to Pigeon Forge this month it has been decided to cancel the January meeting.  
**DRIVE SAFELY YA'LL!**

Date: February 18th

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Vestavia Hills Library

## December Minutes

By Joe Doughty

The annual Christmas party was held at 7:00pm on December 3, 2004 at the Vestavia Library. A good time with great food was enjoyed by the membership.

Toward the end of the party, a short business meeting was called to elect officers for the year 2005. As announced at the November Meeting; the Nominating committee had proposed the following slate of officers:

President	Russ Thuleen
Vice President	Mickey Hunter
Treasurer	John Hathaway
Secretary	Joe Doughty
Newsletter	Leslie Steckler
Arrangements	Jewell Hinkle
Hospitality	Harold Hartline

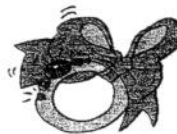
Since no further nominations came from the floor; a motion was made and seconded that the above slate of officers be elected and installed for the new year. The motion carried.

It was also announced that the club collected \$310 from the membership for the COSA Disaster Relief Fund; if such a fund has been set up. If not, we will donate it to another charity chosen by the club.

With no further business the business meeting was adjourned and members returned to the festivities.



Bob Siemens	1/12
Jake Langner	1/25
Wilma Siemens	1/27



## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Frank & Renee' Ranelli	1/12
Tom & Faye Collier	1/13
Walt & Marilyn Davison	1/23
Mickey & Robin Hunter	1/26

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VCE dues of \$20.00/year pay for a family membership and 12 issues of the *Oil Drop* newsletter.

President: Russell Thuleen (205) 678-7979

Vice President: Mickey Hunter (205) 773-1683

Secretary: Joe Doughty (205) 995-0131

Treasurer: John Hathaway (205) 408-4063

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Hospitality: Harold Hartline (256) 747-2308

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**Website:**

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



Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts  
P.O. Box 59071  
Birmingham, AL 35259-9071

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Richard & Sandy Stolzman  
376 Burgess Drive  
Springville AL 35146

## Calling all Enthusiasts

Your assistance is being requested to make this newsletter the link in our Corvair chain!

If you have anything you would like to sell, an article you would like to share; or a car part you are searching for – THE OIL DROP is the place to see it!

Please send all newsletter items to Leslie at [vairluvr@aol.com](mailto:vairluvr@aol.com). Items for the newsletter may also be brought to the meeting and given to her or Russ, or call her at 678-2191. It will make the next issue.





# The Oil Drop



Volume 26, Issue 2

The Official Newsletter of the Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts

February 2005



## Next Meeting

Date: March 18, 2005

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Vestavia Hills Library

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## January Minutes

Due to the attendance of several members of the Vulcan Corvair enthusiasts in Pigeon Forge, TN last month, there was no meeting! So there are no minutes to report.



Jeb Langner	2/12
Jamie Steadman	2/16
Louise Hartline	2/23
Joyce Miller	2/25
Barbar whitkos	2/26
Molly Miljus	2/26
Jan Trotter	2/27

Happy Birthday to all of you!!!



## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Buck & Jewel Hinkle

2/5



On January 20<sup>th</sup>, sixteen of our brave members traveled to Pigeon Forge, Tn to the gathering there. In all about 65 people attended the event. It was an informal get together with only 1 Corvair present, but there were PLENTY of Corvair stories. The ladies enjoyed all the shopping with Louise and Carol leading the pack! Harold and Ed not to be outdone both out bought the women and purchased large BBQ's.

We went to several great restaurants and on Saturday night it snowed! All told it was a great trip and I would encourage any who have not been to plan on attending next year.

Until next month!

*Russ*



## Membership Highlight

The Oil Drop is adding a new feature starting this month! In order to get to know each of the members one will be highlighted each month in this section. We want to know the story behind each and every member and their fascination with the Corvair. We have several generations of Corvair enthusiasts in the club, so let's share history and our appreciation for the members of this group.

Starting off our regular feature is a history of the Corvair Brannon Hunter's (Mickey and Robin's son) Corvair still under construction. It's history starts with his Uncle Phil Hartline. Phil wrote of his past and how Corvair's played a part in his life. This is a legacy handed down from one family member to another. I know we can't wait until Brannon completes the restoration and begins to hit the roads of Alabama and is able to tell us his story. And to think right behind Brannon is Holly and Daniel!

### A Pocket Full of Dreams

By Phil Hartline

Several years ago, I went to visit my parents while they were still living in the house where I grew up in Hueytown. As soon as I walked in the door my dad came over to meet me. I noticed he looked a little funny, and I wondered what was up. "I want to give you something," he said. "Brannon found this in that old '66 in the basement tucked into the driver's seat." Brannon is my nephew, and at the time he was thirteen years old, in Jr. high. My dad had given him the old car, and he was cleaning it out, getting it ready to move to his house so he could restore it. I hadn't been inside that car in years, and had no idea what he found that could possibly interest me, but my dad was watching close to see my reaction when he handed over an old billfold.

I opened it up. It was mine all right. It had four dollars inside, and three pictures. One was of my sister, the others of girls I went to school with. I stared at it, trying to make some sense out of finding something I forgot that I lost two decades ago.

In 1974, when I was a 14 year old Jr. high student. My first car was a non-running '64 Spyder convertible, in need of a complete restoration. Not long after parking it in the basement my dad had the beginnings of what would be his rather extensive collection of non-running Corvairs. After a '66 Corsa daily driver, his next acquisition was a '65 turbo coupe. This car had been hit in the rear and forced into another car in front, meaning it was totaled. But it was complete, low mileage, and had the added pedigree of once running 115 mph at a racetrack. All it needed was a new body. So he found one, nice and straight, a '66 coupe that was sitting in a garage in a back yard not far from home.

That project waited while we worked on the Spyder. It took me almost three years to get it restored, an extremely long time to a budding teenager. What kept me going through endless days of scraping grease and sanding rust spots while my friends in school chased girls were my dreams of what I would do with the car once it was finished. And as the project slogged on, my best friend Bill and I would often sit in the '66 coupe (it still had the seats in it), play acting all the great things we would do when we had our licenses.



In the meantime I worked on the Spyder as much as I could, sanding, painting, and patching rust holes in the floor. I was making progress, which was more than I could say about my friend up the street. He hadn't gotten the GTO yet, so all he could do at that point was talk. Our banter at school had become so well known that as my junior high days wound to a close, one guy who signed my year book wrote "I hope you get your Corvair fixed and stomp that '68' GTO!"

I kept after the Spyder that summer, amazed to find three new rust spots for every one I fixed. It looked like the project would never end. But that fall I entered high school, with a new sense of urgency as my friends began to get their licenses. But no matter how hard I worked, there always seemed time to dream.

I don't know how many hours Bill and I spent sitting in that '66 coupe, me in the driver's seat and Bill riding shotgun, looking through the old windshield at a garage door that was really a series of stop lights down town. Looking back, I now know that if I had spent more time working and less time dreaming, I could have spent more time driving. But such is the stuff of youth, days when work and play coexist, and if we're lucky we'll somehow make it through with just enough of each.

I was in my junior year when I finished the Spyder, right before my Jr. Prom. And I do mean right before, since the last parts I installed were the windshield wipers. Less than a block from home it started raining, and they didn't work, so I had to turn around and go back home for a quick refit while wearing my tux. The adventure had begun.

The car was a real beauty, and I entered it in a local concourse and even won a trophy. But getting through high school proved different than I could have possibly imagined. Not long after winning that trophy I wrecked it, then wrecked it again. And of the two girls whose pictures I carried, I never dated one, and the other never really cared what I drove. As for my friend up the street, he never got the old GTO, and sadly did not survive high school.

In 1978 I left all that behind when I took off into the world with a twice wrecked show car and a head full of dreams. I wore that car out at least twice, each time waiting until something failed before replacing that part with a used one that had a little life left in it. Until one day I parked that battered old Corvair next to the Quad on the University of Alabama campus, walked over to the admin building, and picked up my diploma. My education was complete, or so I thought. And all that time, the '66 coupe and the dreams it inspired sat in a basement in Hueytown, relegated to duty as a handy storage place for empty butter tubs and Pringles cans.

When I started my new career I moved on to a new car, then a new truck while the Spyder sat out in the rain. But I was glad to hear that the old '66 coupe was drug out of the basement and will finally get it's turn, this time with my nephew, who is now in high school. I like to sneak a peak at it when I visit my sister, and it makes me feel good to see it a bit more complete each time. But sometimes I can't help wondering if Brannon ever sneaks downstairs and sits inside, dreaming of how the world will look from behind the same steering wheel where in another basement 28 years ago I lost a billfold that had two pictures of high school girls and enough money for a full tank of gas.

When I think about that it makes me want to go out to the old Spyder. It is running again, I even put the same engine back in it that we first built in 1976. I haven't started on the bodywork yet so all the scars still stand out. But I get to see it in the back yard every time I walk outside. And at the age of 45, I can still relive my jr. high dreams of one day seeing it shiny and new. But I never go out to just sit in it. Instead I smile at my wisdom of leaving the seats in this time, and make sure my current billfold is tucked securely in my back pocket. I start it up, slam the door four or five times until the latch finally catches, and smile at every new car that passes me on the Interstate.

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Note from the Editor: This month I am including a copy of the info sheet. Please update all your information, so that I can update the roster and member birthday/anniversary list. The info sheet can be either returned to me at the meeting or you can email the info to: [vairluvr@aol.com](mailto:vairluvr@aol.com)



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## Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts Information Form

Please complete and return at next meeting or email information to  
newsletter editor at: [vairluvr@aol.com](mailto:vairluvr@aol.com)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Wedding Anniversary: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_ (month/day only)

Spouse's Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_ (month/ day only)

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Child Name and Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you or your spouse have any objection to your birthdays and anniversaries  
being published in the newsletter? \_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_No

Is your phone number non-published? \_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_No

If yes do you have any objections to it being provided to other club members  
if requested? \_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_No





# The Oil Drop



Volume 26, Issue 3

The Official Newsletter of the Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts

March 2005



## Next Meeting

**Date: March 18, 2005**

**Time: 7:00 PM**

**Location: Vestavia Hills Library**

## February Meeting Minutes

The meeting was held at 7pm on February 18, 2005 at the Vestavia Library starting with another of those great potluck dinners we all enjoy so much.

Russ Thuleen, our newly elected president, opened the business meeting with a request for a Treasurer's report. John Hathaway reported that our regular bank account balance was \$347.83, but that in addition to that we also had \$360 which was marked for donation. The donation was earmarked by the membership at our Christmas party for the members of the Corvair clubs in Florida who had losses in the recent storms. John had just recently found where to send the money and it will be remitted shortly.

A report on the recent Corvair event in Pigeon Forge was given by Russ. The event was sponsored by Nader's Raiders and our club received an award for the most members present. Everyone had a great time in spite of the 19 degree weather and some light snow.

It was suggested that after the weather warms up it would be a good time for the club to go on a picnic in the Cullman area, since our club roster has quite a few members with addresses in that area. The month of May was suggested and the membership indicated a favorable response to the idea.

Russ asked if the club had a banner since he has observed other clubs at various events with them. Ed Keller indicated we did have a banner and that it was at his house. Ed stated he would bring it to the next meeting.

## Meeting Minutes (cont.)

It was put to the membership if there was interest in doing another Corvair T-shirt or golf shirt similar to the one we did to commemorate the club's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Russell Noble said he did the art layout for the original shirt and Sarah Keeton stated she knew the business that had printed the shirts was and she would check to see if they were still in business. This issue will be discussed further at the March meeting.

With no further business to be handled the meeting was adjourned and followed by a tech session on turbochargers by Russ Thuleen.

Joe Doughty



3/3	Cary Miljus
3/3	Paul Miljus
3/6	Charlie Drake
3/6	Frank Ranelli
3/30	Richard Stolzman

Happy Birthday to all of you!!!



## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

3/19 Joe & Rozelle Doughty



## A Letter from the President

Hello!

I hope this last month has been good to you AND your corvairs. It has been with me, as I finally installed the tilt steering column and billet steering wheel in my Rampside. With a 15 1/2 inch wheel and adjustable angle it is a pleasure to drive.

I hope several of you plan on going to Helen, GA next month. Remember to make your reservations early for a great show.

Read the acceleration article included and visualize YOUR Corvair going that fast!

*Russ*

## Acceleration: Put Into Perspective

One Top Fuel dragster 500 cubic inch Hemi engine makes more horsepower than the first 4 rows at the Daytona 500. Under full throttle, a dragster engine consumes 11.2 gallons of nitromethane per second; a fully loaded 747 consumes jet fuel at the same rate with 25% less energy being produced. A stock Dodge Hemi V8 engine cannot produce enough power to drive the dragster supercharger. With 3000 CFM of air being rammed in by the supercharger on overdrive, the fuel mixture is compressed into a near-solid form before ignition. Cylinders run on the verge of hydraulic lock at full throttle. At the stoichiometric 1.7:1 air/fuel mixture for nitromethane the flame front temperature measures 7050 degrees F. Nitromethane burns yellow. The spectacular white flame seen above the stacks at night is raw burning hydrogen, disassociated from atmospheric water vapor by the searing exhaust gases. Dual magnetos supply 44 amps to each spark plug. This is the output of an arc welder in each cylinder. Spark plug electrodes are totally consumed during a pass. After way, the engine is dieseling from compression plus the glow of exhaust at 1400 degrees F. The engine can only be shut down by cutting the fuel flow. If spark momentarily fails early in the run, unburned nitro builds up in the affected cylinders and then explodes with sufficient force to blow cylinder heads off the block in pieces or split the block in half. In order to exceed 300 mph in 4.5 seconds dragsters must accelerate an average of over 4G's. In order to reach 200 mph well before half-track, the launch acceleration approaches 8G's. Dragsters reach over 300 miles per hour before you have completed reading this sentence. Top Fuel Engines turn approximately 540 revolutions from light to light! Including the burnout the engine must only survive 900 revolutions under load. The redline is actually quite high at 9500 rpm. The Bottom Line: Assuming all then equipment is paid off, the crew worked for free, and for once, NOTHING BLOWS UP, each run cost US \$1,000.00 per second. The current Top Fuel dragster elapsed time record is 4.441 seconds for the quarter mile (10/05/03, Tony Schumacher). The top speed record is 333.00 mph (533 km/h) as measured over the last 66' of the run (09/28/03, Doug Kalitta). You are driving the average \$140,000 Lingenfelter powered Corvette Z06. Over a mile up the road a Top Fuel dragster is staged and ready to launch down a quarter mile strip as you pass. You have the advantage of a flying start. You run the "Vette hard up through the gears and blast across the starting line and past the dragster at an honest 200 mph. The 'tree' goes green for both of you at that moment. The dragster launches and starts after you. You keep your foot down hard, but you hear an incredibly brutal shine that sears your eardrums and within 3 seconds the dragster catches and passes you. He beats you to the finish line, a quarter mile away from where you just passed him. Think about it, from a standing start the dragster had spotted you 200 mph and not only caught, but nearly blasted you off the road when he passed you within a mere 1320 foot long race course. Now that is acceleration!!

# Member Highlight

## *The Long or Short Version?*

**By Russell Noble**

When Debbie and I were married at the Courthouse, we went by a friend's courtroom during his morning recess. We skipped in, said howdy, and told the Judge our intentions. He didn't miss a beat and asked, "Do you want the long version or the short version?" We both hastily requested the short version. "Congratulations," the Judge promptly said. Hmmm...

As I sit to write a Corvair article, I wonder if I should attempt the long version or the short version of my Vair beginning. To spare you the agony of the long version, you will be subjected to the short version; highlights only of one man's initial poisoning with the dreaded GM 'pancake six' virus. It all started one nice afternoon in 1975.

I was at the top of my game - 16 years old, owner of a 1969 GTO convertible and Honda CL175, and a part-time employee at the Montgomery County Library. Yes sir, memories of that '66 283/PG Impala (sold) and a '70 Cougar (totaled) that lost a mighty battle with a popcorn tree were faded away. However, something was not right in Nobleville. The Goat was OK, but something was missing. Then it happened. A casual friend drove into the driveway in a dark green coupe that afternoon. My, what a gorgeous car indeed. Never seen anything like it. I was smitten.

I undressed the car with my eyes and determined it was a *Corvair* Monza. What the heck was that? After a brief stay he drove off with the car (110/3sp) humming an infectious purr. Yup. No doubt about it. I had to have one.

I did my research (after all, I worked at the library), read up on what I could, and started looking. I deduced that none were available via car lots, ads, etc. I took to the streets on my Honda and scoured the neighborhoods looking in garages, carports, fields, wherever. I crossed paths a few of the 'boxy' early models, even a Spyder. I could not stop searching; my lust was for the smooth lines of the late Corvair.

Then I found something. Yes, a light blue coupe on the North side of town. The car was different though. It had full instrumentation! It wasn't a Monza, but a Corsa. What the heck was that? My research had failed me. I drove back home wondering if the car was modified.

The next day or so I drove back over to the 'Lee' side of town (I was a Sidney Lanier guy). I had decided to buy the car - whatever it was. The car was gone and I knocked on the door. "Sold it yesterday for \$350," the man said. "Yup, just had the engine rebuilt," he added. Are you kidding me! I begged and begged until the man gave me the name and phone number of the buyer...a fellow stationed on Maxwell AFB. Knowing that (for some weird reason) the flyboys had a penchant for air-cooled cars, I knew this would be a tough nut to crack. I called that night and pleaded with the officer to give that Corvair up, and guess what? He did. For \$450 bucks. So, I had my first Corvair for \$100 more than I should have paid but, after all, I was *infected*.

The good: A 1966 Corsa with nice interior, 140/4sp, duals, and a posi diff. Man, that thing was smooth and pretty fast in its own way. Now for the bad stuff: The car had been hit in the left back quarter that had also bent the bumper. The windshield was cracked. I saw bubbling paint that indicated rust in both lower front windshield corners, leading to water leaking onto the floor under the dash. I could fix all this stuff. Parked in the carport with my Mom pestering me to 'get that thing out on the street', I did fix it. Sort of like this:

Bumper - \$15

Windshield - \$10

Bondo - \$7

Spraying fee - \$35

Sweat and elbow grease - \$0

Two quarts of Chevy 'mid' blue - \$30

Sharp, clean, and unique coupe - Priceless

Well, I said I would give you the short version. That car served me well for 2 years during the crazy rise of gas prices into the 70 cent range. I went to college and something had to go as my income had dropped. I was working the summer at Mears' Garage on Mobile Hwy in Montgomery and a stranger pulled in and asked who owned the Corvair out front. I proudly said that I did. He asked what I wanted for it so I did the math in my head and blurted out, "I'll take \$650 for it." He pulled out his wallet and popped six Franklins and one Grant in my hand and took the keys. That was 1978 and I still had a Goat, but I felt sick, really *sick*. **Next article:** Healing (the short version of course).

### Top Ten Reasons to Join CORSA

1. You LOVE Corvairs and want to promote their survival as collector cars.
2. You own OR wish to purchase a Corvair or Corvair-powered vehicle.
3. You want to participate in sanctioned and insured Corvair events.
4. You enjoy the camaraderie of like-minded enthusiasts of the Corvair marque.
5. You need a reason to travel and explore a different area of the U.S.
6. You enjoy the diversity that a multi-model auto marque promotes in its membership.
7. You enjoy the synergy that is derived from an organized club event.
8. You understand the monetary support that Virtual Vairs receives from CORSA.
9. You wish to belong to one of the best international auto clubs.
10. You chose to be a "giver" and not a "taker".

*Copies from the March 2005 Communique*

### How many Corvairs can you find?

O C O R V A I R C O R V A I R  
N A F Z A I V 9 F T E C A G R  
B C L A M 4 5 7 U P I O Y N I  
E Z I T C O 3 R U N R R D I A  
L 4 H O O D B O 7 S B S E R V  
T D A S R O C O P S N A D E R  
Z O I L V O O Y C P E C I E O  
M O N Z A W D 9 O O E O S T C  
A R T B I E A T R R R R P S R  
N S P A R K U G V T G V M K I  
U F A N C A V A O Y R A A T U R  
A E D C O L E S R N E N R I V  
L N I 8 O T B E I E A A T U R  
H E L P L I I P N S S I U Q O  
R A L L E Y I V G S E V R O C

Find all the Corvair related words in this puzzle by circling the right combination of letters or #'s. The words may be written horizontally, diagonally, frontward or backward. Letters and/or numbers may be used more than once. The letter "O" and the number zero are both designated the same. GOOD LUCK!

(Copied from December 1976 CORSA Communique)

### ALABAMA TRIVIA

- \* "Sylacauga" is an old Indian phrase meaning "Buzzard Roost"
- \* Marble used in the construction of the U.S. Supreme Court Building in Washington D.C. was quarried in Sylacauga
- \* U.S. 31, the Bee Line Highway was the first hard surfaced highway to be constructed in Alabama
- \* Since becoming a territory, Alabama has had five different capitals

### WANTED

- 1960 Corvair 2dr Windshield and the passenger side Front and rear window.

Also need two door . Ph 727-585-3973. Trey Bosson

### 4 SALE

I inherited a 1963 Corvair from my dad. It has original 30,000 miles, original interior (except headliner and carpet my dad replaced), and original engine. I am sentimental about it, yet at the same time I know I will not do anything to enjoy it the way it should be enjoyed. I have done a little research so I have an idea of price range I will accept. It has been kept covered in garage since we have had it. If anyone in your club is interested, please call me at 478-987-2107.

Ruth Weeks

### Puzzle Key

Corsa	Spyder	Coupe	Spark	Rampside
Turbo	Wagon	Grease	Monza	180
Ralley	Sportyness	Lakewood	140	
Fan Belt	Quick steering	500	110	
Run	Viton	700	95	Air Cool
O ring	900	Auto	Hood	Ed Cole
Corvan	Manual	Oil	Nader	4 door
Greenbriar	Gas	Corvair	(6)	



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[vairluvr@aol.com](mailto:vairluvr@aol.com)

Thanks in advance for keeping me and the other members up to date!

*Leslie*



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# The Oil Drop



Volume 26, Issue 4

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April 2005



## Next Meeting

Date: April 15, 2005

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Vestavia Hills Library

## March Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Mickey Hunter. President Russ Thuleen was unable to attend because of flu like symptoms.

Nineteen members enjoyed an excellent spread of food prepared by members following club tradition. When dinner was finished a business session was called.

Russell Noble reported that he had been advised that the Vestavia Library may be moved to another location. Evidently a final decision has not been made and in a meeting with our library contact; Russell was advised that the club could stop paying the \$15.00 monthly fee until further notice.

Mickey Hunter gave an update on the 66 Monza Coupe which was the subject of a recent newsletter article. Everything has been done except wheel well trim and pulling the engine to repair a noisy flywheel. The car is expected to be ready for the drive to Helen, Georgia on April 22<sup>nd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup>.

Walt Davison, a resident of Sylacauga during the warmer months, asked to address the group. He said that he wished to take exception to the newsletter note

## MEETING MINUTES (cont.)

which indicated that the Native American name for the Sylacauga area was Buzzards Roost. Walt wanted to correct the record to show:

To his knowledge there are no buzzards living there.

Thanks to Walt Davison and Chris Rothe for some informative technical information. Walt brought a piston which had been copper coated in the area where the gear is pressed on. This restores the press fit and saves the shaft. This will become more important as good used shafts become increasingly scarce. Walt also displayed a set of lifters taken from a 300k engine which had been operated with synthetic oil. They appeared to be in excellent condition.

Chris' tech session involved an air conditioner mount bracket fabricated to accept a Sandin Compressor, which works better for Corvair application. Chris also illustrated how to properly install piston pins. He fabricated a jig out of wood to hold a piston and locate the pin. He heats the rod with a map gas torch to a temperature below showing any color. Chris says you can slip the pin in with finger pressure. This method will avoid overheating the rod.

Announcements – Chris Rothe said that Frank Ranelli's band will be playing at Ryan Creek Marina May 28, '05. they will set up in an outside pavilion. All are invited to attend. Ryan Creek Marina is located on Cullman Co. Hwy. 222. Exit I-65 at exit 299, Dodge City, onto Hwy. 69. Drive about 7 miles to Hwy.222.

The meeting degenerated into random discussions with at least 10 or more people speaking at the same time on different subjects, at which time a call for a motion to adjourn was answered and duly passes.

Acting Secretary,  
Harold Hartline

### WANTED

- Looking for a 1965 to 1969 110 HP complete and running.

Contact Wayne Williams at  
foxtrot@dixie-net.com

### FOR SALE

'65 Corsa Convertible

I have a **SHOW CAR** '65 Corsa Convertible (140 hp) for sale...  
Has never been in rain since purchased.  
48k original miles.  
5k miles since complete restoration  
Red with white interior and top  
Posi-traction  
Telescopic steering wheel  
New everything  
Heart Attack, stroke, brain surgery and retirement (all in same day) forces sale.  
\$ 19,950.00 **OBO**.  
Pictures available  
Located in Memphis, Tn. USA

Lonnie  
(743) 746-1717



PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR 2005 CLUB DUES  
ARE PAID IN FULL. THIS WILL BE YOUR LAST  
EDITION OF THE OIL DROP IF THEY HAVE NOT!  
DON'T DELAY - PAY UP TODAY!!!



### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Happy Anniversary to the following members!

4/10

Jason & Amy Steadman



Happy Birthday to the following members!

4/06

Sarah Smith

4/08

Natalie Rothe

4/09

Joshua Rothe

### A Letter from the President

Hello Everyone!

I hope you are all planning on going to Helen, Georgia at the end of this month, as it is a great show and a place to see old friends and make new ones as I have done the last couple of years. Last month I mailed or called 27 Corvair owners about a **Get Together** in the cullman area, but only 5 of them have expressed any interest.

Please take a few minutes in the next month to sit down and write a profile of yourself and your Corvair. Please email them to me or Leslie OR bring them to the meeting to turn in. This is a good way to learn about the other members of this club.

*Russ*

## Member Highlight

NO HOW - NO WAY - NOT OVER MY DEAD BODY was I ever going to be involved with Corvairs. I had grown up with them taking up space in the back yard - those vile ugly cars. Well Dad went from using the frame and engines to build his dune buggies to restoring and collecting and soon I had caught the bug! I not only enjoyed watching dad work on the cars but I even started going to events and at the Pacific Great West Swap MEET AND Fan Belt Toss sometime in the 1990's I fell in love.

Girls dream of the time when they look across a crowd and catch the eye of their true love. Well I am guilty of that happening to me, and NO this was not of my husband, but of a Corvair Lakewood! I fell in love with this cherry little car and dreamed of one day having my own. Well, years passed and the man I did marry also caught the Corvair bug, but not for a Lakewood like I wished for, but a Rampside. I watched as he and dad (and Jessica - then only a toddler) cleaned up his first one and worked tirelessly on it until it went from a tired looking wreck into a possible trophy contender. But one day as I stood in the front room with Jessica in my arms I watched a car speed down our residential street and plow right into the rear end of the Rampside. The impact pushed the truck about 50 feet forward and then turn 45 degrees and come to a dead stop inches from the palm tree in our side yard. I was transfixed - I didn't know what to do. Well the truck was totaled - the husband was in tears and we were without a Corvair. Another Rampside was located by my trusty dad and they again went to work full tilt. This time the truck was completed and in our driveway was this bright yellow Rampside with a jet black stripe down the side. It was gorgeous! The interior was painted black and the upholstery done in black with large yellow diamonds. A tunnel cover in black with a large yellow Chevy emblem was made to protect the truck bed. It wasn't my Lakewood, but it was a Corvair - something I always said I would never have.

Well as life happens the husband left and with him the Rampside, but he did leave behind my dreams and the bug instilled in our daughter to have her own Corvair someday. Grandpa has encouraged Jessica's love for the vehicle and even gave her one as a toddler to drive. It was a pitiful wreck with no engine, but Jessica loved it. She would take the key, make Grandpa sit in the back seat and 'drive' him places. I still long for a Lakewood, and have even stretched my longing into having a Corvan or even a Corvair motorhome! Jessica has her eye on a modified Rampside up in the garage we lovingly call 'Little Booger'. The nickname caught on because of the ugly green primer it is currently painted. Someday maybe Grandpa will get it started on the road to its restoration and by the time Jess is sweet 16 she will be gifted with 'Booger'. Until then I still attend events, go to meetings and have become actively involved in both the Las Vegas Vairs and Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts.

I may never have my own Corvair, but I have learned to love the car after years on exclaiming NO HOW - NO WAY - NOT OVER MY DEAD BODY!!!

Someday ask me why I am not allowed to touch Dad's Monza Coupe. It is quite a story.....

Contributed by Leslie Steckler

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[vairluvr@aol.com](mailto:vairluvr@aol.com)

If you have done this already Thank You!

Thanks in advance for keeping me and the other members up to date!

*Leslie*



Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts  
P.O. Box 59071  
Birmingham, AL 35259-9071



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Richard & Sandy Stolzman  
376 Burgess Drive  
Springville AL 35146



# The Oil Drop



Volume 26, Issue 5

The Official Newsletter of the Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts

May 2005



## Next Meeting

Date: May 20, 2005

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Vestavia Hills Library

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## April Meeting Minutes

The April 15<sup>th</sup> meeting was called to order at 7:00pm. As always it began with a wonderful potluck dinner provided by the membership. President Russ Thuleen opened the business meeting with a call for a Treasurer's Report. John Hathaway reported a bank balance of \$542.00.

A show of hands was called for to see who would be attending the Springfest in Helen, Georgia on April 22 - 24<sup>th</sup>. Response was very good. Both Russ Thuleen and Pete Wood are scheduled to present Tech Sessions at the event.

Russ asked for a progress report on the status of the proposed club t-shirts that were discussed at an earlier meeting, but Sarah Keeton, who was supposed to check on this, was not present. Ed Keller was reminded to bring the club banner stored at his house to the next meeting.

Newsletter Editor Leslie Steckler reminded everyone that she had still not received updated information forms from most of the members. She is in the process of updating the membership roster.

Harold Hartline made a correction to the minutes of the March meeting; a reference to a 'piston' which had been copper coated should have referred to a 'pinion'.

## April minutes (cont.)

Walt Davison started a discussion by asking how many members adjusted valve lifters using the cold engine method vs. the hot engine method. There appeared to be considerable differences of opinion on this matter. Then, Walt asked if anyone had thought GM would have gone to the trouble to warm up the engine to set the lifters and obviously they wouldn't have.

Russ announced that he now had a sand blaster and offered the use of it to the membership. Art Bolton reported on a '64 convertible that he had heard about in Fultondale that is for sale and Walt stated he had a '65 assembly manual for sale if anyone is interested. On motion by John Hathaway, seconded by Bob Siemens, the meeting was adjourned.

Joe Doughty  
Secretary

---

## A Letter from the President

We had a good turnout this year at the Helen show and everyone had a great time! The cars were all nice and there was enough food to feed a small army. We had a total of 20 members attend this year with 4 cars.

I want to thank Chef Harold for assisting with cooking AND Teacher Pete for the Tech Session. These two showed what talented people we have in the Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts!

We had a few Corvair problems on the trip to and from Helen; with Russ having an oil leak and Ed clutch problems. But under our watchful eye, Jewel's car had an uneventful trip!

Again, I want to thank all who went and I will see all of you at the next meeting!

*Russ*



**Tech Article** – For those of you that were not able to attend Springfest in Helen, Georgia last month; this is one of the tech articles Russ Thuleen handed out in the Tech session he and Pete wood presented.

### The Open differential - Its Faults and its Blessings

The Open Differential which is the most simplistic form of a differential available. Essentially a differential changes the direction of the engine's mechanical rotating force which is known as torque. Also, a differential allows one wheel to turn faster than another in a cornering situation and usually applies power to the outside most wheel - aiding in the travel around and through a corner. As the drive shaft spins, it turns some simple bevel gears inside the differential, which then turns an axle attached to the most convenient wheel. When one says the most convenient - that what it means! Whichever wheel happens to be the easiest to turn is the one it will turn! This is the great downfall of the open differential, in personified terms it is a lazy bum in the back of your car that only does the easiest job - which is turning the most convenient wheel which might not necessarily be the one that **needs** to be turning.

As an example of how useless an open differential can be, say you are driving along and find a diner and this diner has a clay parking lot, but currently everything is dry and you're hungry for some nice greasy diner food. You go inside, have a cup of coffee, eat your two day old pie, and as you go to walk back outside you notice it has started raining. The dirt you parked on is now mud which has become slick as grease. Before hopping in the car you notice the rear left wheel is on some nice grippy gravel - the right rear wheel is sitting in a giant mud puddle. You figure, "Hey, one of my wheels is on gravel, I should be able to leave here fine right?" You crank the car, and as you ease onto the gas pedal the wheel in the mud sits there and spins mud all over your once clean car, getting you absolutely nowhere! You might try going in reverse, but this also gets you nowhere. This is where the term "ONE WHEEL DRIVE" was coined. In drag racing situations, during the burnout only one wheel will spin as well - during launch the maximum grip you will have will be governed to one wheel's torque limit as well.

Another interesting aspect of the open rear is that during a turn the outside wheel pushes the car since it is moving faster it is easier to spin, and therefore it will help you right around the corner. Of course driving straight down the road the open differential feels exactly like any other differential since it evenly applies 50% of the power to each wheel. However, in a slippery situation this same wheel can lose traction very easily when over-throttled, causing you to lose control of your vehicle, and possibly putting you into a guard rail. Nevertheless, it still spins the outside wheel, which is very important.

# 4 Sale

## 1965 Corvair Monza

- 52,000 original miles
- White w/ red interior

Contact Willie Riley at (205) 296-4295 or [wiley@bwwsb.com](mailto:wiley@bwwsb.com) for more information.

\*\*\* \*\*\*\*\*

## 1962 Corvair Monza

It has about 112,000 miles. It was in good running order when parked in the shed in 1972. It had a valve job at 80,000 miles. The body is good shape but the trunk lid and the bottom of the trunk has rush holes. Located in North Miami. Contact Hank Matthews for more info at 305-891-4290.

Pictures available of this car  
see Leslie at meeting



## CONGRADULATIONS 2005 Springfest winners!

Valve Cover Races -	Christie Aycock
	Holly Hunter
	Jessica Steckler
Forward Control - 1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Russ Thuleen
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Harold Hartline
Late Closed - 1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Brannon Hunter



## NO ANNIVERSARYS TO CELEBRATE THIS MONTH



## Happy Birthday to the following members!

5/12 Norm Rogers  
5/20 Jessica Steckler  
5/25 Floyd Snider  
5/28 Dick Witkos  
5/30 Jerry Smith

KUDOS to those Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts who dared the wind, car problems and cold weather to make it to Helen, Georgia last month to the Corvair Springfest! Those in attendance this year were:

Russ & Donna Thuleen

Leslie Steckler & Jessica

Harold & Louise Hartline

Ed & Carol Keller

Buck & Jewel Hinkle

Tom & Faye Collier

Pete Woods

Phil Hartline

Mickey & Robin Hunter  
with Brannon, Holly and Daniel  
and their niece Christie Aycock

## **Member Highlight**

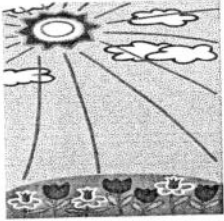
Submitted by: Pete Wood

### WHY A CORVAIR?

Many of us acquired our love of cars and driving them from our fathers. I am certainly no different. As anyone who loves to drive knows, reminiscing on cars in our past is as easy as breathing. Dad often recalled cars he had driven while in the service, cars his father owned, and even some of the cars our own family had. He loved the '72 Torino, the '77 Aspen wagon, a stripper with the 318 and a four speed, and the Olds 88, the first car he owned. None however were recalled with the fondness of the '65 four-door four-speed 110hp Monza, red over red. Grandpa bought the car in a great and unheralded experiment unto the world of less than massive automobiles. He hated it. Dad however was in love. Not all love is meant to last, and his sister crashed the car '67. She was never entirely forgiven for this indiscretion.

Sliding smoothly thirty years forward we find Dad on the phone excitedly describing the fourth gen (last of the RWD) Cutlass he just bought for me. I feel obliged to return the favor. With Dad's retirement a few years off and Mom's insistence that he find a hobby beforehand, where could I go wrong? Alas, what should I get him, a '59 Biscayne, the car he learned to drive in? A '67 Barracuda, the car he let slip away in order to buy the old beater his friend who was being shipped out to Vietnam was selling. Dad appreciated all kinds of cars, but at the car shows he always lingered at the 'vairs. In my teens I had the opportunity to ride in a few corvairs and even to drive one. They were pretty cool. OK, decision made. A few months of searching turned up a '65 Corsa right there in Auburn. Five hundred bucks and a borrowed tow dolly later, Dad had his birthday present and his new hobby for retirement.

Things never work out like they should. Dad never got the chance to start on his car. Cancer took him in 2001. I ended up with twenty-five hundred pounds vintage iron I couldn't quite bear to part with. Two years later at a cruise-in in Trussville I came across a red and black Rampside and my first contact with a VCE member. You've all been here for the rest of my corvair story.



## May Calendar of Events

April showers – bring May flowers

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 <b><u>CRUISE-IN</u></b> 6pm PELHAM SUPER WALMART
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 <b><u>CRUISE-IN</u></b> 6pm BROOK HIGHLANDS SHOPPING CENTER ON HWY.280
	16	17	18	19	20 CORVAIR CLUB <b><u>MEETING</u></b> 7pm Vestavia Library	21 <b><u>CRUISE-IN</u></b> 6pm TRUSSVILLE BIG KMART
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 <b><u>CRUISE-IN</u></b> 6pm SYLACAUGA WALMART
29	30	31	<b><u>COME ON IT IS A AND SEE</u></b>	<b><u>OUT TO THE FUN WAY SOME NEAT</u></b>	<b><u>SATURDAY TO MEET CARS!</u></b>	<b><u>CRUISE-INS. NEW PEOPLE</u></b>

Please let me know if you would like to have an event placed on the calendar!



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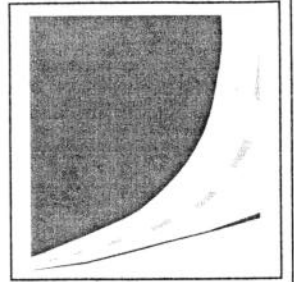
<http://clubs.hemmings.com/vulcanorvair>



Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts  
P.O. Box 59071  
Birmingham, AL 35259-9071

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

2005 MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE NOW PAYABLE!



It's a long road on the Corvair Information Highway to get out this newsletter each and every month.

Dues go to help pay for this. It is now time for the 2005 dues to be paid. Don't forget to drop a check in the mail or come to the next meeting and bring your membership current and up to date!

Note from the Editor:

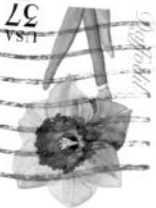
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If you have done this already Thank You!

Thanks in advance for keeping me and the other members up to date!

*Leslie*



Richard & Sandy Stolzman  
376 Burgess Drive  
Springville AL 35146





# The Oil Drop



Volume 26, Issue 6

The Official Newsletter of the Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts

June 2005



## Next Meeting

Date: June 17, 2005

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Vestavia Hills Library

## April Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order and opened with prayer given by Ed Keller. Dinner followed with our usual spread of food brought by the club members.

After socializing during the meal; the business meeting was opened at 7:30pm by President Russ Thuleen. John Hathaway gave a Treasurer's report – stating that there is \$844.63 in the club account. Russell Noble stated that a contact with Vestavia Library officials informed him that next month we should know if monthly fees will be restarted. The issue of the monthly newsletter being sent out to members who have not yet paid the yearly dues was raised by Russ Thulee. John Hathaway reported that currently 6 family/single members have not paid. It was decided that they will once again be notified, but after this month no newsletter will be sent out to them.

Russ mentioned the Hot Air Balloon show in Decatur, AL will have a car show and many other activities on July 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Cullman Strawberry Festival is scheduled for Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup>. It also includes a car show to include trucks, tractors and motorcycles.

Russ has received an inquiry from an individual who is looking for a 65/66 Corsa in running condition, as well as a '63 Spyder and a '65 Monza which are for sale.

## May minutes (cont.)

There was a discussion to whom club newsletters should be sent and the consensus was that only newsletters would be sent to those clubs who share theirs with VCE.

Walt Davison apologized to the group for his failure to notify members in time to help HAND sand his Ultravan. (LOL – good one Walt!)

A short tech session followed on sleeves for crank shafts sea & surfaces and Holly/Weber carburetors, as well as lifters – new compared to original. Upon a motion duly made and seconded the meeting was adjourned.

Harold Hartline  
Acting Secretary

## A Letter from the President

Hello!

This past weekend the Hot Rod magazine Tour of America came thru Birmingham stopped at the raceway. Harold, Ed, Buck, Pete and I attended, where Pete had his new Corvair n display. It is so good to see young people interested in Corvairs and attending events, as our cars and trucks do attract a lot of attention!

We will be discussing the upcoming club picnic at the regular meeting so please be in attendance if possible!

See you at the meeting!

*Russ*

## June Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Happy Anniversary Phil & Carol Hartline	2 Happy Birthday Laura Noble	3	4 Happy Birthday Sandy Stolzman  <u>CRUISE-IN</u> 6pm PELHAM WALMART
5	6	7 Happy Birthday Barbie Langner  Happy Anniversary Russ & Donna Thuleen	8	9	10	11  <u>CRUISE-IN</u> 6pm BROOK HIGHLANDS
12	13 Happy Anniversary George & Ann Miljus	14 Happy Anniversary Chris & Frances Rothe	15	16	17  <u>VCE CLUB MEETING</u> 7pm Vestavia Library	18  <u>CRUISE-IN</u> 6pm TRUSSVILLE BIG KMART
19	20	21	22	23	24	25  <u>VCE PICNIC</u> 10:30am Sports Lake, Cullman  <u>CRUISE-IN</u> 6pm SYLACAUGA WALMART
26	27	28	29 Happy Birthday David Langner	30	<u>COME TO THE SATURDAY CRUISE-INS! IT IS A GOOD WAY TO MEET PEOPLE AND SEE SOME FANTASTIC CARS AND HAVE LOTS OF FUN!</u>	

Please let me know if there is an event you would like to have placed on the calendar!





# Picnic

Date: June 25, 2005

Time: 10:30am

Where: Sports Lake, Cullman, AL -  
Pavillion #2

\*\*\*\*\*

What's for dinner???

Bar-B-Que Chicken, Country Style Pork Ribs,  
Smoked Sausage

Homemade Strawberry Ice Cream made with fresh  
Cullman County berries!

Potato Salad, Coleslaw, Baked Beans and anything  
else y'all can think of!!!

Directions: Take I-65 north to exit 308 onto Hwy. 278 East. On Hwy. 278 drive 1.8 miles to Hwy. 31 North. Drive north 1.4 miles to Sportsman Lake Road. Turn at Cadillac/Jeep dealer and into park to Pavillion #2.

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*Leslie*



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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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Richard & Sandy Stolzman  
376 Burgess Drive  
Springville AL 35146

7215+1702



# The Oil Drop



Volume 26, Issue 7

The Official Newsletter of the Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts

July 2005



## Next Meeting

**Date:** July 15, 2005

**Time:** 7:00 PM

**Location:** Vestavia Hills Library

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### June Minutes and a Letter from the President

Hello All!

On June 25<sup>th</sup> we had our cookout at Sportsman Park in Cullman. Twenty people were in attendance for a feast of BBQ'd meat by Chef Hartline and lots of homemade ice cream by Mickey Hunter. The picnic was covered by a nice shady pavilion with electricity to run a fan.

Four Corvairs were driven which drew some spectators around the park. I want to thank all who showed up, especially Walt Davidson, who traveled about 120 miles to attend.

Donna and I will be attending the National Convention in Portland, Oregon this coming July 23<sup>rd</sup>. I am looking forward to seeing some old friends and hearing the speakers lined up for the event.

Hurricane Dennis is pounding our state as this is going out in the mail, so I hope there is no delay and that everyone has made it thru the wind and rain safely.

See you at the meeting Friday!

*Russ*

## CONGRATULATIONS

The Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts wish to congratulate Ed & Carol Keller as well as Authur & Vickie Bolton on the births of new grandchildren just prior to our last meeting in June.



The Kellers welcomed a new grandson born to their son and his wife.

The Boltons welcomed a new granddaughter born to Vickie's daughter.



---

Condolences also go to Carol Keller and her Family on the passing of her father. In lieu of flowers, the Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts made a contribution to the Keller's church.



## July Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 <b><u>HAPPY BIRTHDAY</u></b> ED KELLER <b><u>CRUISE-IN</u></b> 6pm PELHAM WALMART
3	4 <b><u>HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY</u></b>	5	6 <b><u>HAPPY BIRTHDAY</u></b> LESLIE STECKLER	7	8	9 <b><u>CRUISE-IN</u></b> 6pm BROOK HIGHLANDS
10	11	12	13	14 <b><u>HAPPY BIRTHDAY</u></b> JON KEETON	15 <b><u>VCE CLUB MEETING</u></b> 7pm VESTAVIA LIBRARY	16 <b><u>CRUISE-IN</u></b> 6pm TRUSSVILLE BIG KMART
17 <b><u>HAPPY BIRTHDAY</u></b> RUSSELL NOBLE	18 <b><u>HAPPY BIRTHDAY</u></b> ROBIN HUNTER	19	20	21	22	23 <b><u>HAPPY BIRTHDAY</u></b> DONNA THULEEN <b><u>CRUISE-IN</u></b> 6pm SYLACAUGA WALMART
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Please let me know if there is an event you would like to have placed on the calendar!





CHENNAI  
28

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Arrangements: Jewell Hinkle (205) 780-0549

Website

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

Note from the Editor:

The last few months I have requested an update of the info from all members, so that the roster and member birthday/anniversary list can be updated. This is an ongoing task. As members move, have additions to their family or just change an email address - please take a moment to let me know of the update. You can email me, give me a note at the next meeting or give me a call (see phone number in box at left). Updated info can be emailed to me at:

[vairluvr@aol.com](mailto:vairluvr@aol.com)

If you have done this already Thank You!

Thanks in advance for keeping me and the other members up to date!

*Leslie*



Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts  
P.O. Box 59071  
Birmingham, AL 35259-9071

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



**HAPPY  
SUMMER  
GRILLING!**

Richard & Sandy Stolzman  
376 Burgess Drive  
Springville AL 35146



# The Oil Drop



Volume 26, Issue 8

The Official Newsletter of the Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts

August 2005



## Next Meeting

**Date:** August 19, 2005

**Time:** 7:00 PM

**Location:** Vestavia Hills Library

---

## July Minutes

July 15, 2005

The meeting was held at 7:00pm on July 15, 2005 at the Vestavia library with an excellent potluck dinner after which the business meeting was opened by President Russ Thuleen.

Treasurer John Hathaway reported that we had a bank balance of \$663.66.

Russell Noble reported on the status of the use of the library as our meeting place stating that the fees are paid up through October and the library will be available for the December meeting. He also said it is almost certain that a new library would be built sometime in the near future, but the location has not yet been finalized. We may or may not be able to meet in the new library.

Since the library will be available in December; a motion was made and approved to hold our Christmas party there.

Russ and Donna Thuleen volunteered to have a tech session at their home in November in lieu of a meeting since the library will not be available that month.

Russ also said that he and Donna are flying to Portland to attend the upcoming CORSA International Convention there on July 26 - 30<sup>th</sup>.

Harold and Louise Hartline invited everyone to a gathering of members at their home on Smith Lake on Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup> (a week after the 8/19 meeting).

Walt Davison told about the enjoyable cookout held at Sportsman Park in Cullman on June 25<sup>th</sup>. Due to Harold Hartline's trusty new stainless steel grill and his well known culinary skills; Walt presented him with a chef's apron in appreciation of all the good food he prepared that day.

Harold said that Federal Park on Smith Lake at Corinth (near Double Springs) is a great place for a picnic and he proposed that we consider a cookout there in October. Harold is willing to take his grill and do the cooking again! This proposal will be discussed and voted on at our August meeting.

Russ Thuleen reminded us of various upcoming events such as "Vairs at the Fair" in Warner Robbins/Perry, Georgia on October 7 & 8. This event is sponsored by our good friends in the Heart of Georgia club. He also mentioned the Music City Car Show to be held in Nashville on September 2 & 3.

It was mentioned by one of the members that Charley Drake still has his '63 Spider convertible for sale.

Pete Wood mentioned he can purchase solenoids and bendix units for Corvairs at dealer cost, but must buy them in a case of 20 units. If enough members are interested - please see Pete.

Harold Hartline made the motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Richard Stolzman. The motion carried and a tech session was held on late model wheel bearings.

Joe Doughty  
Secretary

# Presidential Report

Hello all!

Donna and I just returned from the Poprtland, Oregon CORSA convention. The event was at a hotel right on the shores of the Colombia River with snow covered Mt. Hood a short distance away. We even got a show of ash and smoke from Mt. St. Helen's – it was very exciting!



Valve Cover races – CORSA convention '05

We had the pleasure of seeing James & Lillian Law AND Billie & Eleanor Bruce. The number of cars and parts was not up to previous years, but some very beautiful cars were seen! We were able to see a lot of old friends we had not seen in a few years and they put me to work right away with the valve cover ramp and working a check point on the rally.



Duane Cartwright's Fuel Injection engine



just of a few of the Corvairs on site!

Donna was feeling real good and we enjoyed ourselves immensely, but we are very glad to be back home. See ya all at the meeting!

*Russ*

## August Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6  <b><u>CRUISE-IN</u></b> 6pm PELHAM WALMART
7	8  <b><u>HAPPY ANNIVERSARY</u></b> JERRY & SARAH SMITH	9	10	11	12  <b><u>HAPPY BIRTHDAY</u></b> BRANNON HUNTER	13  <b><u>CRUISE-IN</u></b> 6pm BROOK HIGHLANDS
14  <b><u>HAPPY BIRTHDAY</u></b> MARILYN DAVISON	15	16	17	18  <b><u>HAPPY BIRTHDAY</u></b> MARIE DRAKE	19  <b><u>VCE CLUB MEETING</u></b> 7pm VESTAVIA LIBRARY	20  <b><u>CRUISE-IN</u></b> 6pm TRUSSVILLE BIG KMART
21	22	23	24	25	26	27  <b><u>CRUISE-IN</u></b> 6pm SYLACAUGA WALMART
28	29  <b><u>HAPPY BIRTHDAY</u></b> SARAH KEETON	30	31			

Please let me know if there is an event you would like to have placed on the calendar!



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President: Russell Thuleen (205) 678-7979

Vice President: Mickey Hunter (256) 773-1683

Secretary: Joe Doughty (205) 995-0131

Treasurer: John Hathaway (205) 408-4063

Newsletter: Leslie Steckler (205) 678-7979

Hospitality: Harold Hartline (256) 747-2308

Arrangements: Jewell Hinkle (205) 780-0549

Website

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Note from the Editor:

I have finally settled on a no frills format for our newsletter. I have repeatedly asked for tech articles / member profiles / or items of interest to put in The Oil Drop each month. To date I have received very little. This saddens me, as I have enjoyed being the newsletter editor of two wonderful chapters now and I am getting so little input.

I do thank all of you for the information update for the roster and hope everyone was able to get an updated copy. If you need a recent copy either ask me at the next meeting or email me a request at:

[vairlvr@aol.com](mailto:vairlvr@aol.com)

*Leslie*

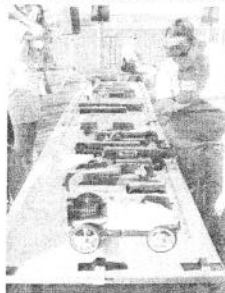


Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts  
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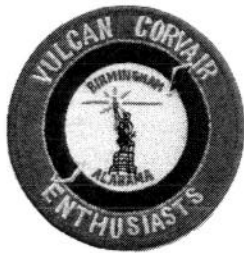
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Hey lady! Don't touch  
The valve cover racers!



Richard & Sandy Stolzman  
376 Burgess Drive  
Springville AL 35146





# The Oil Drop



Volume 26, Issue 9

The Official Newsletter of the Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts

September 2005



## Next Meeting

**Date:** September 16, 2005

**Time:** 7:00 PM

**Location:** Vestavia Hills Library

## August Minutes

The meeting was held at the Vestavia library at 7:00pm on August 19, 2005. As always it began with our usual delicious potluck dinner.

President Russ Thuleen called for the business meeting to order with a request for a Treasurer's Report from John Hathaway. John reported a bank balance of \$462.47.

Russ introduced guests Jeff McCrary and his son Nathan. They reside in Gardendale and are the proud owners of a very nice Monza 110 HP, 4 speed. We are happy to report that at the end of the meeting Jeff and Nathan joined VCE!

Leslie Steckler, VCE Newsletter Editor, reminded us that she is in dire need of material for the 'OIL DROP' newsletter each month. John Hathaway proposed that each month we feature a different member with a story about their Corvair (or Corvairs). Someone needs to get the ball rolling with a story! Leslie is just waiting for some help in this area.

Harold Hartline reminded the group that Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup> is the date for the cook out and tech session at his home out on Smith Lake. He gave out

## August Minutes (cont.)

copies of directions to get there – hoping no one gets lost. Leslie will also email the directions to everyone in the club with an email address.

Jewell Hinkle announced that we have the Christmas party scheduled at the library on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Again it was decided that in lieu of gifts to each other we would make a donation to a charity to be decided on later.

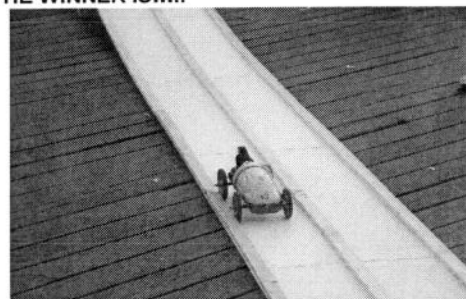
Russ announced that he and Donna are hosting a tech session at their home in Chelsea in place of the November meeting. Our usual meeting room is not available that month. A date and time will be announced later. Russ stated that one item on the agenda for the tech session would be the assembling of an 80 HP engine.

Pete Wood announced that he would be ordering a case of 20 bendix units and 20 solenoids for Corvair starters at a cost of approximately \$5 per unit. Anyone interested should contact Pete.

John Hathaway moved that we adjourn to a tech session held by Richard Stolzman on a late model shift linkage. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.

Joe Doughty  
Secretary

AND THE WINNER IS.....



## September Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3  <u>CRUISE-IN</u> 6pm PELHAM BIG LOTS
4	5	6	7	8	9	10  <u>CRUISE-IN</u> 6pm BROOK HIGHLANDS
11	12	13	14	15	16  <u>VCE MEETING</u> 6PM VESTAVIA LIBRARY	17  <u>CRUISE-IN</u> 6pm TRUSSVILLE BIG KMART
18	19	20	21	22  <u>HAPPY BIRTHDAY</u> CAROLL HARTLINE	23	24  <u>CRUISE-IN</u> 6pm SYLACAUGA WALMART
25	26	27  <u>HAPPY ANNIVERSARY</u> ED & CAROL KELLER	28	28	29	30

**Happy Belated Birthday to one of our newest members!**  
Nathan McCrary – 8/29

Please let me know if there is an event you would like to have placed on the calendar!



## Presidential Report

Hello all!

Since our last meeting, we had a great gathering at Harold & Louise Hartline's lakeside home. As usual Harold was the cook and he put on a feast! In fact, my doctor put me on a diet the very next day.

We had several tech sessions going at the same time. A turbo rebuild, a Rampside electrical problem, and Walt's Coach. We also had some people who braved the deep water and went swimming. The water and sun were warm and all had a good time!

With approximately 30 people present – this is one of the best events we have had this year.

*Russ*

\*\*\*\*\*

### Pictures & Ads

\*\*\*\*\*

#### 1963 Corvair -

Original 30,000 miles - original engine and interior (except head-liner and carpet replaced by original owner). There is sentimental attachment, yet I know I will not do anything to enjoy it the way it should be enjoyed. I have an idea of price range I will accept. Kept covered in garage.

If interested, please call me at:

478-987-2107.

Ruth Weeks



How ALL good Corvair owners start their training!

Needed - 1960 Corvair 2dr Windshield and the passenger side front and rear window.

Also need two door . Ph 727-585-3973. Trey Bosson

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Arrangements: Jewell Hinkle (205) 780-0549

Website

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Note from the Editor:

I want to thank John Hathaway for his support in getting word out about help with the contents of this newsletter. This newsletter highlights all of us in the group and I want to make The Oil Drop as good as I can! This entails asking all of you for input, tech articles, member profiles, picture of Corvairs, funny info we all can laugh at, or even an ad for something you want or even a for sale ad.

This is the second club I have been the newsletter of and I enjoy it so! I want all of you to enjoy reading it each month.

Please email me, send by mail or bring to a meeting anything you want to see used in this newsletter! Profiles do not have to be long and detailed - a couple of paragraphs about you and your interest in Corvairs.

Thanks!

*Leslie*



Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts  
P.O. Box 59071  
Birmingham, AL 35259-9071



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Russ talking turkey at the Valve Cover Races!  
CORSA Convention 2005



Richard & Sandy Stolzman  
376 Burgess Drive  
Springville AL 35146



**Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts**  
P.O. Box 59071  
Birmingham, AL  
35259-9071



Russell & Debbie Noble  
3416 Danner Circle  
Birmingham AL 35243



# Natchez Trace

## Fall Cruise

**October 21 – 22, 2005**

Attention all club members!

The Natchez Trace Fall Cruise will fall on the meeting night,  
so there will be NO meeting on October 21st.

All those planning on going on the outing meet at the Best Western  
in Franklin, Tennessee.

Hope all you can make it!

Hotel and trip itinerary below:

### October 21

Drive to Franklin, Tennessee - Leave I65 at Exit 65 - Turn left and see BEST WESTERN MOTEL

Telephone (615) 790-0570 or (800) 251-3200

\$53.89 2 Double bed and \$40.39 Single bed

### October 22

Take Hwy 96 West to Natchez Trace Parkway - Drive South to Tupelo - Leave the Trace at the PARK  
VISITOR CENTER located at Tupelo - Take Hwy 45 South from Visitor Center - Drive to BEST  
WESTERN MOTEL

Telephone (622) 842-4403 or (800) 528-1234

\$62.00 King Size bed

See Tupelo attractions –

Car museum etc.

Return Home via Hwy 78 East.





# The Oil Drop



Volume 26, Issue 11

The Official Newsletter of the Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts

November 2005

## No November Meeting

In lieu of the November meeting; a tech session will be held at Russ & Donna Thuleen's house.

Date: Saturday, November 17<sup>th</sup>

Time: 10:00 for the tech session with lunch to follow

Where: Russ & Donna's house (see map)

## September Minutes

Meeting of September 16, 2005

The meeting was held at 7:00pm at the Vestavia Library. A potluck dinner was enjoyed by all those present.

President Russ Thuleen called the business meeting to order by asking the treasurer, John Hathaway, for a report. John reported a bank balance of \$472.47.

President Thuleen introduced guest Mario Sanchez who is here on a visit from Colombia. Mario is very interested in cars and owns a Monte Carlo.

Russ reminded everyone that the annual 'Vair at the Fair' in Warner Robins, GA is slated for October 7 & 8. This event is sponsored by the Heart of Georgia Corvairs.

## September Minutes (cont.)

Russ announced that the tech session at the Thuleen's would be held on Saturday, November 17th at 10:00am. This is in lieu of the regular November meeting.

Also mentioned was the cruise-in coming up at the Kmart in Trussville on Saturday, September 17.

It was reported that George Miljus acquired a 1965 convertible with only 13,000 original miles on it.

A discussion was held on various possible club outings. It was decided to drive to Tupelo, MS on Friday, October 21 and drive the Natchez Trace from there to Jackson, MS. This would take place of the regular October meeting scheduled for that date.

Richard Stolzman held a drawing for a door prize.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

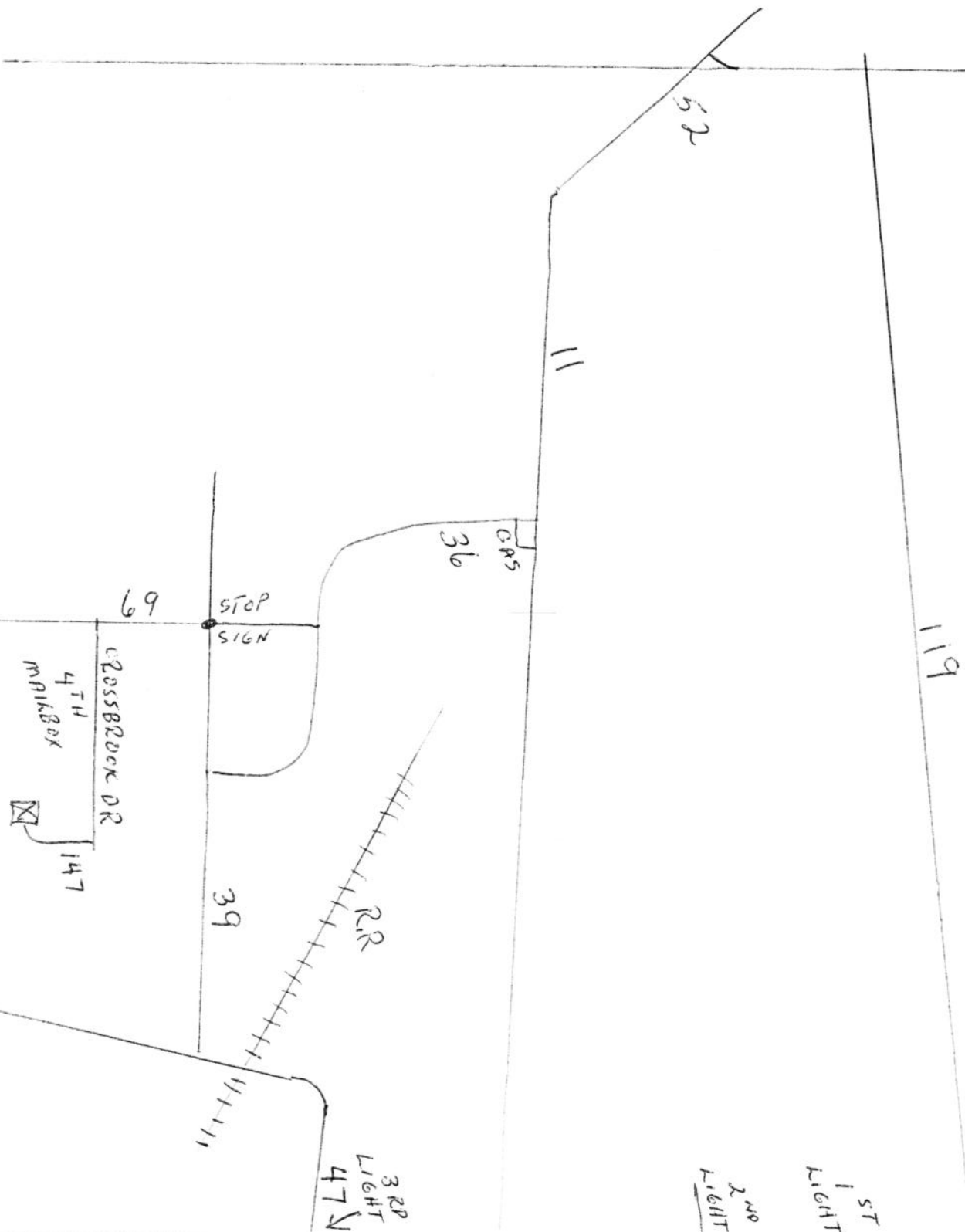
Joe Doughty  
Secretary



The Nader's Raders Vairyland Queen in the Georgia State Fair parade

65

S



280

S

HUGH DANIEL

41

43

MC DONALD'S



## **October Road Trip**

**NATCHEZ TRACE FALL CRUISE**

**October 21-22, 2005**

**by Harold Hartline**

*One of the great pleasures of the old car hobby is driving the back roads, by-ways and less traveled country roads.*

The Natchez Trace Parkway is renowned for its unspoiled natural beauty. It stretches some 444 miles from Natchez, Mississippi to Nashville, Tennessee. It was first used by Native Americans thousands of years ago and is steeped in early American history.

October is a favorite month to drive the Trace. We started at Historic Franklin, Tennessee, a worthy destination on its own. The historic district offers a variety of shops, antique stores and restaurants.

Saturday morning was overcast and misting rain when we left the motel. However, as we neared the Trace the sky cleared to reveal a beautiful October blue sky without a cloud in sight. The brilliant autumn colors of hardwood foliage lined the Trace through the rolling hills of Tennessee. Fall colors silhouetted against blue sky were truly spectacular.

First stop was Historic Leipers Fork for breakfast at Country Boy Restaurant. The folks at Leipers Fork were having a Festival with all manner of activities including a chili cook-off. It was tempting to stay for the judging but then we would have been late getting to Tupelo.

The Drive to Tupelo was interrupted by stops at historic sites and a walk or two on the Old Trace.

As we drove South we met at least 40 "A" and "T" Fords, none of which appeared to be less than 75 years old.

We arrived at the Best Western in Tupelo about dusk and returned to Alabama on Hwy. 78 the next morning.

*This is one of the most enjoyable Corvair outings that we make. Maybe it will become an annual gathering.*

**WHAT** *Clark's*  
*Corvair Parts,® Inc.*  
**DID in 2005 !!**

**RE-RAN MOST SIZES CLEVITE 77 MAIN & ROD BEARINGS**

- 1 - **REPRO** ALL stock **EXHAUST PIPES.**
- 2 - **REPRO** 65-69 molded **HOOD & FENDER INSULATION.**
- 3 - **REPRO** 1965-69 **DOOR SILLS.**
- 4 - **REPRO** the **BEST** ever AC style **OIL FILTER.**
- 5 - **REPRO** over **8** different Corvair tools.
- 6 - **REPRO** exact original style **STEERING BOX BUSHINGS.**
- 7 - **REPRO** **4 RUBBER GROMMETS**
- 8 - **REPRO** 61-64 **GAS FILLER DRAIN PARTS.**
- 9 - **REPRO** **CLIPS** for convertible top boot trim body.
- 10 - **REPRO** **TURBO PAPER AIR FILTER.**
- 11 - **REPRO** 65-67 **4-DOOR MOLDED DOOR W/STRIPS.**
- 12 - **REPRO** **BRASS BRAKE "T" 's**
- 13 - **REPRO** **MODULATOR VALVES**
- 14 - **REPRO** original **CHOKE COIL RETAINERS**

**MORE?** We have **10 more** projects in the works!

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## PICTURE PAGE

Vairs at the Fair

Georgia State Fair - Perry, Georgia

October 7 & 8, 2005



A picture is worth a thousand words – Pete and Russ taking off in the opening parade!  
Notice the van in the background AND that Russ has future Corvair owners in the back of his truck!



Ahhhhhhhhhhhhhh – the view from the hotel room was refreshing!

### A Message from the President

I hope everyone is doing ok, it's been a busy time in our Corvair club. First the meet and parade in Warner Robins. There were about 40 Corvairs in the parade. Of course, they were the hit of the fair.

Next were the last of the Cruise-ins for the year. I hope next year we can get some more Corvairs at these events, as they are free and our cars and trucks draw more attention than almost any of the other cars there. Trussville is a big event where a couple of hundred cars of all makes and models show up.

The last event for the month was the drive down the Natchez Trace. This is an old trade road which goes from Nashville, TN down to Natchez, Miss. It has no stop lights and a 50 MPH speed limit. The turn out was a disappointment, as only Harold & Louise Hartline and Donna & myself took the trip. We did have a wonderful time tho!

The next event on our club calendar is the tech session at my house on November 17<sup>th</sup> (10am to ??) We will be assembling an early motor, so if you have never done this; it will be fun to get your hands dirty. Lunch will be served, so don't bring anything but yourself. I hope all can make it!

*Russ*

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## CORVAIR 4 SALE



Four door

Email phone number to:

[risintideband@bellsouth.net](mailto:risintideband@bellsouth.net)

or call – Gary Beck at 205-4973002  
or cell 205-283-6297



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P.O. Box 59071  
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Richard & Sandy Stolzman  
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December 2005  
MINUTES  
VULCAN CORVAIR ENTHUSIASTS  
Meeting of November 19, 2005

A tech session was held on November 19, 2005 at the home of Russ and Donna Thuleen and Leslie Steckler. Approximately 24 members and guests attended. The tech session was very interesting and informative and the food and fellowship were outstanding.

A short business meeting was called to order by President Russ Thuleen in order to elect officers for the year 2006.

Russ welcomed guest David Crawford who is joining the club. David recently bought a red 1963 convertible.

The following slate of officers was presented for consideration for the year 2006:

President	Ed Keller
Vice President	Mickey Hunter
Secretary	Russ Thuleen
Treasurer	John Hathaway
Newsletter	Russell Noble
Hospitality	Harold and Louise Hartline
Arrangements	Jewell Hinkle

A call for nominations from the floor was made but none were offered.

A motion was made by Harold Hartline and seconded by Bob Siemens to accept and approve the slate of officers as presented for the year 2006. The motion carried.

A discussion was held regarding the desirability of adding a back-up signature to the club's bank account in addition to that of the treasurer. It was agreed that this was a good idea.

A motion was made by Russ Thuleen and seconded by Ed Keller that the signature of Joe P. Doughty, Jr. be added to the bank account of the Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts at Regions bank. This is account number ~~888-888-888~~. This signature is to be in addition to that of the treasurer, John C. Hathaway, which is already on the account.

Russ reported on the status of the following upcoming events:

CORVAIR LOVERS HOLIDAY - This event will probably not be held this year because of the problems in getting a hotel.

PIGEON FORGE - I appears this event may or may not be held.

SPRINGFEST AT HELEN, GEORGIA - This event will be held in April.

VAIRS AT THE FAIR IN WARNER ROBINS, GEORGIA - The Georgia Fair officials have enthusiastically invited the corvair clubs with their cars to participate again next year in the parade and the fair events.

CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY - The party will be held at the Vestavia Library on December 2 at 7:00 P.M. Harold Hartline will cook a ham and John Hathaway a turkey. Jewell Hinkle has assigned other members various dishes to bring. IF YOU BRING A CHILD BRING A WRAPPED GIFT FOR THEM TO PUT UNDER THE TREE. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

CC: Russ Thuleen ✓  
Leslie Steckler

Secretary

Joe Doughty

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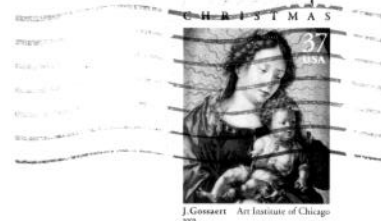
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HAPPY HOLIDAYS



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Merry Christmas