

# THE OIL DROP



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE VULCAN CORVAIR ENTHUSIASTS Vol 33, No 1

January 2012



## THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN:

We had a terrific Christmas party with 29 persons in attendance. Our food table was really overflowing with all the good eats. Harold Hartline did the delicious ham and Billy Cannon brought the turkey which melted in your mouth!

We took up a \$10.00 donation from each person present, which we then voted to donate to the Fullness Christian Fellowship church where we have our monthly meetings.

We had a short club meeting and from the looks of it the officers of the Vulcan Corvair Club would all retain their positions for another year.

Russ Thuleen said that the City of Chelsea was having a Christmas parade the next day and that he would have three Corvairs in it, and Billy Cannon said he would have one. Hope to get some pictures out of it for the newsletter.

One of the newsletters I got had an article on Quaker State's new motor oil coming out next spring. It contains a high level of ZDDP, is designed for classic car owners and has a higher percentage of swell additives to recondition dried-up seals and to control leaks. The name is QUAKER STATE DEFY, intended for higher-mileage vehicles and flat-tappet cam issues.

STRENGTH for a MAN'S HEART: If you are not guided by God, you will be guided by someone or something else. (Eric Liddel)

## Web Links 4 U!

Sent in by Russell Noble; The Old Car test. How good are you at identifying cars from the 50s?

<http://www.americantorque.com/game/car-show-50s/>

Looking for an old car?

[http://www.olderide.com/classic\\_cars/](http://www.olderide.com/classic_cars/)

Corvair paper and TV advertising site. Good TV commercials featuring Bonanza and Bewitched personalities.

<http://perrya.hubpages.com/hub/Corvair-Ads-1960-69-by-Chevrolet-for-the-Aficionado>

1965 training film for Chevy dealers comparing features of Corvair over Mustang.

<http://www.motortopia.com/car-videos/1965-corvair-vs-mustang-300>

## **Next Meeting:**

Date: Friday, January 20, 2012

Time: 7:00 pm

Place: Fullness Christian Fellowship.

**ATTENTION:** All ramps from I-65 to Hwy 31 in Hoover are open. Construction has moved to the I-65 southbound lanes. I-459 West to I-65 North is still messed up. Stay on 459 West to Exit 13B (Hiway 31) and get off there. Go north to Columbiana.

<http://www.progress65.com/progress65-Jefferson.htm>

## Upcoming Events!

### Jan 13-15 Winter Retreat in Pigeon Forge, TN.

Hosted by E. TN. Corvair Club  
Timberwood Lodge, 4025 Parkway, Pigeon Forge, TN 865-453-0625 and mention the Corvair event.

### Feb. 24-25 Corvair Lover's Holiday

Pensacola, FL. Days Inn Pensacola Beachfront  
16 Via De Luna, Pensacola Beach, FL. 850-934-3300  
Mention Corvair for special rates.

Friday - Hospitality dinner, door prizes, 50/50, Valve Cover races, Ladies Get Together. Contact June Lindsay @ [wfcc@mediacombb.net](mailto:wfcc@mediacombb.net) or 850-994-2161

### March 9-11 Spring Warm-Up in Myrtle Beach, SC.

Hampton Inn, 1803 S. Ocean Blvd., Myrtle Beach, SC, 843-946-6400, mention CORSA.  
Show, car corral, poker run/scavenger hunt, bingo, valve cover racing, model & toy Corvairs, swap meet, awards dinner.

### April 20-21 Springfest, Helen Ga.

Friday autocross and swap meet.  
Fri. nite hospitality party, 50/50, valve cover races.  
Sat. Concours, people's choice.  
Sat. nite awards banquet, tech sessions  
Motels: Helendorf Inn 706-878-2271  
Best Western 706-878-2111  
Super 8 706-878-2191 For all reservations ask for Corvair club rates, before March 20.

Pete and Gena at Chelsea parade



## December VCE Meeting Minutes

The December Christmas meeting of the VCE was held on Friday, December 16th with a total of 29 members in attendance. The meeting was preceded by a wonderful turkey and ham potluck dinner provided by the membership.

Louise Hartline gave a report on Elsie Pemberton. She had been in remission, but her cancer had returned, please remember else in your thoughts and prayers. Louise also thanked everyone for attending the funeral of Harold's mother earlier in the month.

A \$10 per person donation had been asked from the membership for our usual Christmas gift to an area charity. The membership raise a total of \$250.00 and it was decided to donate the money to Fullness Christian Fellowship this year.

Billy Cannon was asked to report on the new members from Georgia who were to join us for the meeting, but on their way to the meeting they lost their brakes. They decided to turn around and go home rather than risk traveling with squishy brakes. We hope to meet them soon at a future meeting.

Other business reports included a report on area car shows and the Treasurer's Report. Joe Doughty reported that the VCE bank account stands at \$456.00.

There was a motion to adjourn, which was seconded and Richard Stolzmann held a short tech session on Thermostats. Russ Thuleen then held a short session on Dual Point Distributors and tools.

Merry Christmas to all and a Happy New Year!



Send Oil Drop submissions to:

[John.C.Cleveland@ElPaso.com](mailto:John.C.Cleveland@ElPaso.com)

Office – 205-325-7654

Cell – 205-834-3120

**NOTE: PLEASE SEND SUBMISSIONS NO LATER THAN THE 25<sup>TH</sup> OF THE MONTH.**

Judi Cannon at the Chelsea parade



**From the Editor: The December Hard Luck award goes to our newest members!**

A couple of follow up emails from Chris and Molly after their Christmas Party adventures.

1.

We are home safe. After two instances when the pedal almost went to the floor, it went back to acting normal. Very strange. Chris is out there checking the fluid in the master cylinder just to satisfy his curiosity.

We so wanted to come and meet everyone and enjoy the great food and Corvaair companions. I had made 2 dozen hand decorated Santa cookies that I will now have to pawn off on people at work..The sad thing is that Chris' schedule does not give him a 3rd Friday off until July. He works this very strange rotating shift. We won't be able to come to a meeting until July now.

Thanks for your gracious hospitality to have us caravan with you. It would have been great fun. Keep us posted of any weekend events you might be at where we might be able to come join you. Chris has two weekends a month off.

Thanks again, Chris and Molly

2.

I'm sure you've heard we made it to Opelika last night and had to turn around. We were so excited about coming and were thrilled with the wonderful hospitality extended by Billy and Judi, but Murphy rode along with again (nothing new). After we got home, Chris went out to assess the situation. Since there was lots of brake fluid in the master cylinder, he determined he has not fully released the parking brake and it heated the rear brakes causing a spongy feeling pedal. He had used the emergency brake exiting the interstate, just in case, and realized its travel distance wasn't as far as normal. After he ensured the release that time, during drive home, the brakes reacted normally. BUT, during his inspection for leaks or any other abnormalities, he discovered steel belt hanging out on the inside of one of the tires. I guess, his "user error" was really a signal of something that could have been equally bad and ruined our trip too.

I'm sure you will have pictures from the party, so please add what would have been our contribution to the fun and festivities.

Unfortunately, Chris will not be off work on a third Friday until your July meeting. We'll see you there. Also, please let us know if you do something locally on a weekend as he has two weekends a month off.

Chris and Molly

Take care, drive safe and GET THAT CORVAIR OUT THERE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

- John -



We coulda ate those cookies!

**Birthdays**

Denise Cleveland - Jan. 2  
Bob Siemens - Jan. 12  
Wilma Siemens - Jan. 27

**Anniversaries**

**It was too cold to get married in**  
**January!**

2011 Christmas party





# New chapter plan policy

For years we have had a Chapter plan outlining what a chapter needed to do to become and stay a CORSA chapter. Part of the policy to stay a chapter is to provide a current list of the chapter's officers, the name and address of the chapter's CORSA contact and a list of all the chapter's members and their addresses, CORSA and non-CORSA members alike. The policy to remain a chapter is going to stay the same with the exception of including the name of the chapter's newsletter and a current website address of the chapter if applicable, plus the addition of a \$3 fee for each non-CORSA member. As always there will be no fee for chapters that are made up of 100% CORSA members or the three CORSA chapters in Europe. The members of the board will contact an officer of each chapter in the next few months to make sure the chapter is active and alert them to the new policy.

The most important reason for the change is to have every CORSA chapter member pay their portion of CORSA's \$1,000,000 umbrella policy. Contrary to popular belief the insurance does not cover individual members or their cars. It does however protect CORSA, all CORSA sanctioned chapters and the venues where they hold meetings or events at. In other words, every meeting or event that your chapter holds, and every home owner, business or race track where you have meetings or moving events at, is protected from legal action. In this day and age that is very important! CORSA members already pay their portion of the insurance fee as part of their yearly CORSA dues. The \$3 yearly fee paid by each chapter's non-CORSA members will help cover their portion of CORSA's liability umbrella policy that protects their chartered CORSA chapter from legal action. It will also help pay for the small fee that CORSA will incur for administration of the chapter report. This fee also puts an end to the old argument that non-CORSA members don't pay their portion of expenses. Of course CORSA would like chapters to continue promoting the benefits of being a CORSA member, but CORSA and the board members realize times are tough and we feel this is the best compromise for everyone.

The chartered CORSA chapter can add the \$3 fee to each non-CORSA member's chapter dues or pay it out of the chapter's general fund. It is totally up to the chapter how to raise the money. The total monies collected for the non-CORSA members and the chapter report will be due to the CORSA Secretary by March 1st of 2012 and every March 1st thereafter. If the report and fees are not received by March 1st a reminder notice will be sent and a one month grace period will be granted for the chapter to send the required information and fees in. If the requirements are not fulfilled after the one month grace period, the chapter will be removed as a chartered CORSA chapter and lose their insurance coverage until the requirements to remain a chartered CORSA chapter are fulfilled. The CORSA board would like to thank-you for your compliance with this policy and your continued support of your CORSA organization!

I would like to ask each VCE member to contact me by phone or email to give me the status of your CORSA membership. This information will be added to our club roster so we can keep proper books and make sure we comply with this new requirement. At this time there has been no decision made as to how this extra fee will be paid, but I will bring it up for discussion at our January meeting - Editor

**Russ, Jessica and friends at Chelsea parade**



**John at Chelsea parade**





**Judi is getting ready to go!**



**Leslie was driving Russ' coupe at Chelsea**



**Five Corvairs at the Chelsea parade. Russ' Rampside and coupe, John's convertible, Russ' convertible and Judi's convertible.**



**John at the Weogufka parade**



**Billy at the Weogufka parade with Judi's car**



**Judi's car at the Rockford parade...**



**...and the Goodwater parade**



*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: Richard Stoltzmann  
205/467-6444*

*Vice President: Pete Wood  
205/956-6832*

*Secretary: Russ Thuleen  
205/678-7979*

*Newsletter: John Cleveland  
205/834-3120*

*Treasurer: Joe Doughty  
205/995-0131*

*Hospitality: Harold Hartline*

*Arrangements: Jewel Hinkle*

*Web: <http://www.corvair.org/chapters/chapter352/>*



*In the coming year may your home be too small to hold all  
your friends!*

**Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts  
147 Crossbrook Dr.  
Chelsea, AL. 35043**





# THE OIL DROP

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## February 2012

### THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN:

Richard didn't have anything to say this month.

Go Figure!



### Next Meeting:

Date: Friday, January 17, 2012

Time: 7:00 pm

Place: Fullness Christian Fellowship.

Bring your spouse, a covered dish and a Corvaire!

Send Oil Drop submissions to:

[John.C.Cleveland@ElPaso.com](mailto:John.C.Cleveland@ElPaso.com)

Office – 205-325-7654

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Harold and his Rampside

### Web Links 4 U!

Don't know if these cars are selling at these prices, but if they are, values are going up!

[http://www.oldride.com/classic\\_cars/chevrolet\\_corvaire.htm](http://www.oldride.com/classic_cars/chevrolet_corvaire.htm)

!

I found this site and spent 20 minutes looking. It is Time magazines 50 worst cars. The Corvaire came in 17<sup>th</sup>.

[http://www.time.com/time/specials/2007/article/0,28804,1658545\\_1658498\\_1657833,00.html](http://www.time.com/time/specials/2007/article/0,28804,1658545_1658498_1657833,00.html)

This site has some good links to Corvaire parts, books, etc. The eBay links were good, so someone is keeping it up, though it doesn't look like it.

<http://corvairecentral.com/>

If you like old CORSA and Corvaire stuff from the '70's, this is your site. Check out those sideburns!

<http://corvairealley.com/>

**Dues are due. Send your check to Joe Doughty ASAP or I will come to your house and work on my car in your driveway!**

## Upcoming Events!

### Feb. 24-25 Corvair Lover's Holiday

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16 Via De Luna, Pensacola Beach, FL. 850-934-3300  
Mention Corvair for special rates.

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Cover races, Ladies Get Together. Contact June  
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Show, car corral, poker run/scavenger hunt, bingo,  
valve cover racing, model & toy Corvairs, swap meet,  
awards dinner.

### April 20-21 Springfest, Helen Ga.

Friday autocross and swap meet.

Fri. nite hospitality party, 50/50, valve cover races.

Sat. Concours, people's choice.

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Motels: Helendorf Inn 706-878-2271

Best Western 706-878-2111

Super 8 706-878-2191 For all reservations ask for  
Corvair club rates, before March 20.

### July 25-28 2012 Corsa Int'l Convention in Sturbridge, Mass.

Host Hotel: Sturbridge Host Hotel & Conv. Center  
366 Main Street, Sturbridge, MA. Special room rates.

Wednesday – Autocross, Thursday – Road Rally,  
Swap Meet, Friday – Valve Cover Racing, Concourse,  
tech sessions and seminars. Saturday – People's  
Choice and special events. Check it out!

<http://www.corvair.org/chapters/necconvention/index.htm>

## Birthdays

William Sweet - Feb. 19

Carol Hartline - Feb. 23

Joyce Miller - Feb. 25

## Anniversaries

Buck & Jewel Hinkle - Feb. 5



Russ' Rampside



Russell's Convertible

THE ONLY CARBS YOU  
CARED ABOUT WERE  
UNDER THE HOOD.





**From the Editor:**

January has been a pretty slow Corvair month for you humble editor. The convertible has either been in the driveway at home while I'm off in an Avis special, or in the parking garage at the airport. Starting this week it'll be out on the road getting me back and forth to the office, like it should.

After our meeting last week I took it down to Montgomery for the weekend. The wife was already down there, so we got to spend some time together. I don't know a lot about Alabama, but Montgomery doesn't seem like much of a tourist destination. They do have a Dillard's, so that scores some point for the shopper in the family!

My latest repair was a new thermostat. Took the car over to Russ' to use the lift and the job went pretty smooth. The damper door was open when I got home, the problem came in the morning when I checked and it was still open! That's a lot of green for a thermostat that wouldn't even work once. Now I'm trying to get the vendor to warranty it and not having much luck. The next project is to remove the front and rear bumper guards. If you're looking for a set of original fronts and some hybrid back ones, they'll be in the newsletter in a couple of weeks.

It was good to hear the report from everyone who went to Pigeon Forge for the Winter Retreat. Our club was well represented by members and their Corvairs. The Corvair Lover's Holiday in Pensacola is coming up fast, so make plans now to attend that one also.

As reported in the meeting minutes I'm looking for someone to be prepared to take over the newsletter later on this year. This is depending on the status of my job (or lack of) after the company is taken over this spring. Give it some thought. If you have any questions about the process let me know.

Keep Buck and Jewel in your prayers as Jewel recovers from a fall she took a while back. Russ reported that she is using a walker, but is home and getting around.

Take care, drive safe and GET THAT CORVAIR OUT THERE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

- John -



Chris and Josh with their coupe



Richard's convertible and coupe



Editor's Note: Billy sent this to me last month and he wrote it earlier than that. Judi's car is on the road, Warner Robbins is a pleasant memory and the last time I saw it the windshield was still intact. Way to go Billy!

## Window Installation and Alignment

Judi's '67 Royal Plum convertible is almost ready for the road.

As of this writing we are doing all the "little" jobs of final assembly in hopes of being finished in time to make the Warner Robbins parade and show. Because we are at this point I thought it might be helpful to other VCE members to have detailed instructions for proper side window alignment.

Begin with everything "loosely" installed.

- 1) Adjust the clearance and fit of the vent-frame to base of the windshield pillar using the adjuster screw in the door jamb, located just above the upper hinge.
- 2) Then, adjust the top of the vent window frame fore/aft and in/out using the adjuster at the lower end of the vent frame (lower-front corner of inner door panel). Adjust the vent frame forward angle by sliding the adjuster fore/aft and adjust the in/out angle by screwing the lower-front adjustment in/out.
- 3) The horizontal track that's attached to the center of the inner door panel controls the rotation of the glass. Raise the window and loosen the horizontal track. Push the window forward so that it is seated in squarely in the backside of the long vent frame channel, and then tighten the track.
- 4) Roll the window up halfway and adjust the rear vertical channel up or down. This adjustment provides the right front-to-rear dimension for the length of the glass. Push the window forward and gently slide the channel up until it "pinches" the glass. Back off a little and tighten the up/down channel position using the bolt just above the door latch.
- 5) Next, adjust the lower end of the rear vertical channel so that it's parallel to the front vertical channel. Lower the window. Remove the nut from the lower-rear adjuster and screw the adjuster "in" several turns. Push the lower part of the rear channel and the window forward so that everything is snug to the front channel and hold it there. Now, unscrew the adjuster till it meets the inner door panel and install the retaining nut. If the window can move fully up and down without binding or developing excessive play, the tracks are parallel. (You may have to "touch-up" #4, the glass rotation, at this point).
- 6) Adjust the two upper stops to stop the glass correctly at the roof weatherstrip and to fine-tune the rotation so that the entire length of the glass lies properly in the "L" shaped pocket of the roof rail weatherstrip.
- 7) Adjust the lower stop so that the glass is flush with the top of the door when fully open. This process isn't nearly as hard as it sounds, and the whole job is pretty straightforward if you perform the adjustments in this order.

Billy B. Cannon Jr.



General Mills

FRUIT COLOR

FRUIT FLAVOR  
PRE-SWEETENED  
CEREAL

8 1/2 OZ.  
NET WT.

**TRIX**

**72 Corvairs!**  
IN GENERAL MILLS  
Corvair Sweepstakes

(SEE DETAILS ON BACK!)

72 **FIRST PRIZES! Corvairs by Chevrolet!**

Here's the car all America goes for... the revolutionary Corvair by Chevrolet... the car that puts more fun in driving... more fun in living! Corvair is the compact car that's made a clean break with the past... with the only rear-mounted aluminum engine and the only 4-wheel independent suspension system on a medium U.S.-built car. Has a virtually flat floor, seats six in comfort!

**180 SECOND PRIZES!  
1960 MINIATURE CORVETTES!**

Great fun for any youngster from 6-12 and perfect for play in your own backyard. Styled after the famous Corvair sports car, it's powered by a safe, dependable 4-cyle, 2 hp Green Engine... governed for speeds of 8-11 mph. Features flow glass body, tubular steel frame.

**9,000 THIRD PRIZES!**

Scale Model 1960 Chevrolets!  
These sturdy rusted-down model cars are 8 1/2 in. long plastic replicas of the popular 1960 Chevrolet Impala Convertible. Children love them because they look so much like Dad's car.

**9 GREAT SWEEPSTAKES & Drawings in each!**

The General Mills Corvair Sweepstakes is really nine great sweepstakes. Enter all now. Rules for each General Mills Corvair Sweepstakes are on its specially marked packages. Or write to General Mills, Department 80, 623 Main Street, Minneapolis, Minn. 55415, for a free copy of rules.

**TRIX**

See rules on side panel

Reprinted from the November issue of the South Coast Corsa newsletter. This is a 1960 TRIX cereal box advertising a Corvair Sweepstakes from General Mills. 72 first prizes!



John's convertible



Ed's convertible

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205/995-0131*

*Hospitality: Harold Hartline*

*Arrangements: Jewel Hinkle*

*Web: <http://www.corvair.org/chapters/chapter352/>*



*Happy Valentine's Day!*

**Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts**  
147 Crossbrook Dr.  
Chelsea, AL. 35043





# THE OIL DROP

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE VULCAN CORVAIR ENTHUSIASTS Vol 33, No 3

## MARCH 2012

### THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN:

We had a great February meeting on the 17th, lots of good food, a few laughs and a great meeting. We discussed our Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts charter; a copy of that Bill Sweet got from the Jefferson county court house. We voted to get some bylaws together that John Cleveland will compile from various clubs. Vulcan Corvair Officers will meet early at 5:30 before the next meeting on March 16th to vote on the bylaws we want to enact.

By the time everyone gets this article, I and a few other members will have gone to the Pensacola meet on the 24th and 25th, and returned. I'm leaving tomorrow the 24<sup>th</sup>. I hope the rain and bad weather forecast has come and gone by the time I leave.

On personal note; I just got back from Palm Springs California. We did a lot of hiking in the National Parks surrounding the area; from desert hikes where it was really hot, to mountain hikes where there was ice and snow. All within 30 minutes of where we were staying.

Also I'm continuing to work on my 4dr, got two back doors redone and back together and I'm disassembling the left front door at present. I'll be done in a year or two?

REFLECTIONS FROM THE SEAT OF AN OLD TRACTOR: When you wallow with pigs, expect to get dirty.

**Dues are due. Send your check to Joe Doughty ASAP or I will come to your house and work on my car in your driveway!**

### Next Meeting:

Date: Friday, March 16, 2012

Time: 7:00 pm

Place: Fullness Christian Fellowship.

Bring your spouse, a covered dish and a Corvair!

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[John.C.Cleveland@ElPaso.com](mailto:John.C.Cleveland@ElPaso.com) or

[monzajohn@charter.net](mailto:monzajohn@charter.net)

Office – 205-325-7654

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### Web Links 4 U!

**Official GM product photos. You can purchase an 8"x10" art print of just about any GM car ever made. Type Corvair in the search box.**

<http://www.gmphotostore.com/>

**The GM Heritage Center has a lot of information plus archive documents you can download about your Corvair model.**

<http://www.gmheritagecenter.com/>

**Remember Daylight Saving Time begins on March 11! Set your clocks forward one hour before you go to bed on the 10th.**

## Upcoming Events!

### March 9-11 Spring Warm-Up in Myrtle Beach, SC.

Hampton Inn, 1803 S. Ocean Blvd., Myrtle Beach, SC, 843-946-6400, mention CORSA.

Show, car corral, poker run/scavenger hunt, bingo, valve cover racing, model & toy Corvairs, swap meet, awards dinner.

### March 10 Car & Truck Show in Inverness, FL

Inverness City Hall, 9:00 to 4:00, register before noon.

To benedit the Florida Sheriff's Youth Ranches and Citrus Co. Children's Advocacy Ctr. \$20 registration NCCC, 1490 Druid Rd., Inverness, FL 34452  
353-344-4210 [nccorvairclub@yahoo.com](mailto:nccorvairclub@yahoo.com)

### April 20-21 Springfest, Helen Ga.

Friday autocross and swap meet.

Fri. nite hospitality party, 50/50, vale cover races.

Sat. Concours, people's choice.

Sat. nite awards banquet, tech sessions

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Wednesday – Autocross, Thursday – Road Rally,  
Swap Meet, Friday – Valve Cover Racing, Concourse,  
tech sessions and seminars. Saturday – People's  
Choice and special events. Check it out!

<http://www.corvair.org/chapters/necc/convention/index.htm>

**APRIL 14**

**JIM COX MEMORIAL CAR SHOW  
ZAMORA SHRINE TEMPLE  
REGISTRATION 8:00 TO 11:00 AM  
IRONDALE, AL**

## Birthdays

Hoyt Mann - March 4

Allison Daniels - March 29

Richard Stolzmann - March 30

Pete Wood - March 31

## Anniversaries

Joe & Rozelle Doughty - March 19

## February VCE Meeting Minutes

The February 17th meeting of the VCE was held at Fullness Christian Fellowship as usual starting with the sumptuous potluck meal. There were 19 people present, which included 2 visitors - Clyde & Brian Cork.

President Richard Stolzmann called for business reports:

### OLD BUSINESS

\* Both Russ Noble and Russ Thuleen have volunteered to make the CORSA report on members

\* Bill Sweet reported on the Incorporation papers.

\* Billy Cannon reported that the monthly newsletter is now available on the VCE website.

\* John Cleveland and Bill Sweet will complete an update to the VCE By-Laws.

### NEW BUSINESS

\* Ed Keller mentioned the Jim Cox car show to be held April 14th. For more information contact Ed.

\* There will be a car show held at Shelby High School on May 12th. For more information contact Russ Thuleen.

\* The CRUISE-INS start again in April!

\* Harold and Louise Hartline are wanting to hold a FIX-IT party at their house up at Smith Lake. Harold is looking to get his Corvair boat up and running again. Look for more details in future newsletters.

\* Roy Dutton mentioned if anyone was interested in Amsoil, to contact him for more information.

Billy Canon moved to adjourn - the motion was seconded.





## **From the Editor:**

It's hard to realize that in a little over one month from now the cruise-ins will start up again. While it has been a mild winter, I miss getting out with the top down. It's a lot more fun driving to work that way! We also seem to be stuck in a weather pattern where it is cool and rainy on the weekends. That is preventing me from taking my car over to non dues paying members to work on it. I like the weather warm when I work on the driveway.

I have been plagued with a terrible squeaking noise that I thought was coming from my steering column. I heard it from inside whenever I turned the wheel, mostly after the car had been sitting for several hours. It usually went away after turning the wheel a few times. I had the car up on jack stands for an oil change and lube and I was turning the front wheels to get to a zerk. That's when I got to hear the noise from below. It was really bad.

I finished my work, then disconnected the battery, popped the horn button off and started squirting WD-40 down the column and turning the wheel. Didn't seem to make any difference so I called Russ to see if I could bring it over to get a 'professional opinion'.

His opinion, and Pete's also, was that yes, it was a terrible noise, but it was difficult to determine where it was coming from. While we were working the wheel back and forth it eventually stopped. My theory is the WD-40 finally got to where it needed to be.

It's been about a month now and the noise is coming back. I separated the pitman arm from the steering box and moved the wheels; no noise. Then I turned the steering wheel; no noise. After removing the steering box and column for inspection and finding nothing wrong, I gave up for the evening and started picking up tools. While reaching under the car to grab a socket I grabbed the pitman arm, which was still disconnected from the steering box. IT DIDN'T MOVE! Turns out the bushing on the other end was freezing up. Another lesson learned, and don't assume anything.

Take care, drive safe and GET THAT CORVAIR OUT THERE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

- John -

## Why I Call My Corvaire Corsa Convertible 'Rhapsody 'N' Blue'

Submitted by Richard Cleveland and edited

**Rhap-so-dy: 1.(a) In ancient Greece, a part of an epic poem suitable for a single uninterrupted recitation (b) a similar modern work. 2. Any ecstatic or extravagantly enthusiastic utterance in speech or writing (or work) 3. Great delight; ecstasy 4. (Obs.) a miscellany 5. Music, an instrumental composition of free, irregular form, suggesting improvisation.**



Two lessons about buying an old car: 1. Always take a magnet with you and 2. Ask for character references. After buying the car I had to choose whether to sell it off for parts or fix it up. I chose the latter and despite some of the frustration that I have encountered along the way, I have come to experience what many Corvaire owners have experienced before me; that of being involved in a LABOR OF

LOVE. My wife would say that I made the wrong choice, but only time will tell on that one.

Thus begins my experience of a lifetime, doing things that I have never done before and experiencing things for the first time in my life.

The idea to call the car 'Rhapsody in Blue' came from remembering an instrumental by that name. I looked up rhapsody in the dictionary so I could see what it meant. Def. #3 was right on, but #1 started the ball rolling and #5 came into play a lot as there had been a lot of improvisation on this car!

The first order of business was to get the body blasted down to bare metal. An estimate ended that idea in a



hurry. After wearing out 3 wire brush wheels and starting on the 4<sup>th</sup> the car was down to its birthday suit and the condition of the body became very clear. After the initial shock wore off I looked upon it as a new adventure and figured I might as well enjoy the ride. Definition #1 was coming into play, the beginning of a single uninterrupted recitation.

And it was after reading "A Different Route" by Charles Moss in the March 2010 Communique, that the fulfillment of Rhapsody began to take place, with his quote as a guide; "Thank you, GM, for the canvas,



now I will create my own masterpiece". Now the complete definition came into play in different ways and at different times, interrupted by spells of frustration.

FIRST: Def. #5 started to work as I took all the emblems off the rear quarter panels, front fenders, hood and trunk lid. I decided to leave off the chrome under the doors. After I had fixed all the rust damage I could, and had everything was welded up that could be fixed, it was taken to have the body and paint work done.

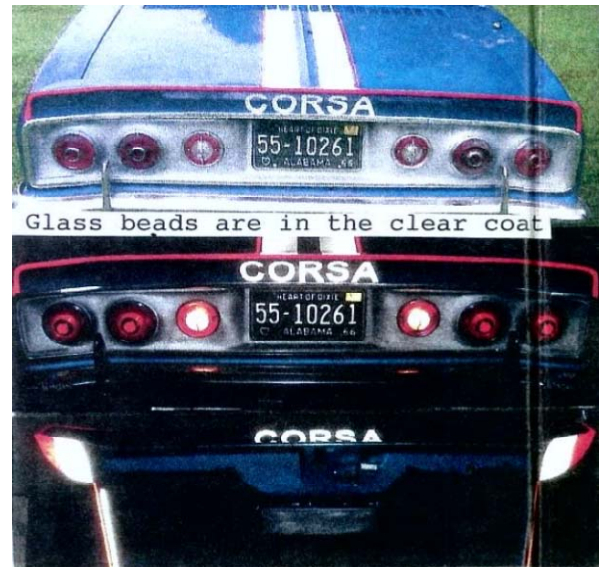
SECOND: There was too much bondo work to do on the front panel to make it look good so I purchased the front clip from a man in Los Lunas, NM. This turned out to be a very good decision! When the car was almost ready for paint I decided to look into getting an aftermarket front spoiler. I ordered one

from Mulholland Drive in California.

John Smyda, who did the welding, body and paint work, suggested two 6" racing stripes on the car, but I nixed the idea. After seeing the pattern of the stripes on the new spoiler I changed my mind. (Def. #5 at work again!)

THIRD: I didn't think about the rear of the car when ordering the front spoiler, then Def. #5 struck again!. Not wanting to spoil all the blocking, sanding and priming done on the original hood, I decided to put the rear spoiler on an extra hood and save the original. Between the start and finish of the rear spoiler project there were many moments of frustration, but considering this was my first time I'd ever done this, it came out looking pretty good. Also, when taking the paint off, I found the hood I was using

had damage which the spoiler covered up, so all in all the project was very gratifying.





**FOURTH:** While originally planning to paint the stripes on, after seeing the effect of the reflective tape on the rear spoiler I decided to make the stripes with that, plus a ¼" trim with red reflective tape. The same with the red and white stripes down the side of the car. The sole purpose was to make the car more visible at night, but was pleased that it made a positive decorative factor in the daytime. The red, white and blue motif wasn't planned, it just worked out that way. If fact, the edging on the front and sides was not planned, Def. #5 strikes again!



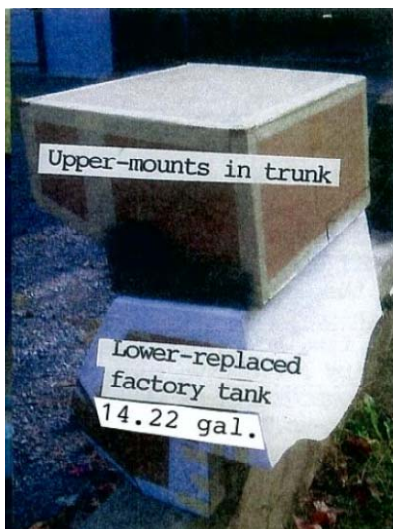
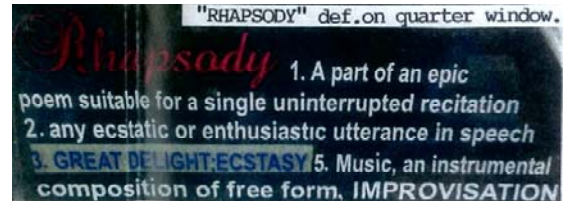
**FIFTH:** Since I had blended the rear spoiler in with the hood, Def. #5 struck took over again. I enclosed the underside of the spoiler end that extended over the rear fenders, and covered it with a strip of reflective tape. On my trip to California, that paid off when a tow truck driver I was waiting for almost missed me in the dark.

**SIXTH:** The wheels I used had fake rivets on them so they would look like split rims. I cut the rivets off, smoothed it out and painted the center of the wheels blue, with the knock-off hub wings covered in white reflective tape with a red trim strip. To hide the brake drums discs were made to fit behind the wheels. These were covered with red reflective tape. It looks good and really stands out at night.

I was 66 when I bought the car in Oct. '09 and did most of the body work in 2010. It was finally looking halfway decent in July of '11 but had a lot of problems to work out with the custom fuel tanks and the carbs. During this whole project, Def. #2 has been a motivating factor, with Def. #5 a constant companion. But when all is said and done Def. #3 will reign supreme, because when you take a car that has been neglected, fix it up and give it a nice paint job, there is a very gratifying feeling from turning 'trash in to treasure'. Is the paint job as good as I would like it to be? NO!. Are there still little glitches that need to be worked out to make it as good as I would like? YES!! But seeing that this is the first time in my life that I have painted a car, I feel that I can hold up my head and say that I finished what I started, and it came out looking PRETTY GOOD!

All in all it has been a rewarding, if expensive, experience, laced with a lot of frustration in between. And this may sound like bragging, but it is a true observation - there's not another CORSA like it on the planet.

I recently went on a trip from Cullman, AL to Monterey, CA and back. The only trouble I had, though expensive, turned out to be a plugged fuel filter from debris left in the custom fuel tank. Other than that the car ran great over the 5000 miles I drove in a week's time.



Mock up of additional fuel tank.



Various tail light configurations.



Reflective disks mounted behind the wheel for added visibility and to hide the drum. Red stripe around the blue wheel center also adds to night visibility. Spinner is reflective also.



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*President: Richard Stoltzmann  
205/467-6444*

*Vice President: Pete Wood  
205/956-6832*

*Secretary: Russ Thuleen  
205/678-7979*

*Newsletter: John Cleveland  
205/834-3120*

*Treasurer: Joe Doughty  
205/995-0131*

*Hospitality: Harold Hartline*

*Arrangements: Jewel Hinkle*

*Web: <http://www.corvair.org/chapters/chapter352/>*



*Spring is right around the corner!*

**Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts**  
147 Crossbrook Dr.  
Chelsea, AL. 35043



# THE OIL DROP

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE VULCAN CORVAIR ENTHUSIASTS Vol 33, No 4

## April 2012

### THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN:

Well, the meeting for the month of March has come and gone: We had plenty of eats and good fellowship. We had a good turnout of members. No tech sessions were given.

We voted to have our next meeting at Helen Georgia, as most members that were present indicated that they were attending Springfest 2012. We will have the meeting in the Festhalle one hour before the banquet on Saturday night. I'll see everyone then in Helen.

I want to thank everyone who contributed to the review of all the club bylaws and the writing of the VCE bylaws. A special thanks to John Cleveland, who reviewed many other club bylaws and drew up our draft of bylaws for our club. Thanks to Steve Daniels: Bill Sweet and Russ Thuleen for their input.

Our guests Clyde and Brian came to our March meeting and I am glad we didn't scare them away. I understand they will be attending Springfest,

**OLD FARMERS ADVICE:** If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is stop digging.

**Dues are due. Send your check to Joe Doughty ASAP or I will come to your house and work on my car in your driveway!**

### Next Meeting:

Date: Saturday, April 21, 2012

Time: 1 hour before the banquet

Place: **Springfest in Helen at the Festhalle.**

Be there or be square!

Send Oil Drop submissions to:

[monzajohn@charter.net](mailto:monzajohn@charter.net)

Office – 205-325-7654

Cell – 205-834-3120

**NOTE: PLEASE SEND SUBMISSIONS NO LATER THAN THE 25<sup>TH</sup> OF THE MONTH.**

### Web Links 4 U!

Sent in by Bob Siemens, the cars of the stars! These are some classy rides.

[http://www.dieselpunks.org/profiles/blogs/lord-k-s-garage-100-star-ride?xg\\_s](http://www.dieselpunks.org/profiles/blogs/lord-k-s-garage-100-star-ride?xg_s)

Sent in by Joe Doughty; an interesting story and pictures of a man in Desoto, KS. who restores and reengineers classics.

<http://kansastravel.org/grandpasoldfordgarage.htm>

Sent in by Richard Stolzmann; two videos of the Pittsburg Vintage Grand Prix

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JuxLbG71hzc&feature=channel>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jO35POJkxx0&NR=1&feature=endscreen>

## Upcoming Events!

### March 10 Car & Truck Show in Inverness, FL

Inverness City Hall, 9:00 to 4:00, register before noon.

To benefit the Florida Sheriff's Youth Ranches and Citrus Co. Children's Advocacy Ctr. \$20 registration

NCCC, 1490 Druid Rd., Inverness, FL 34452

353-344-4210 [nccorvairclub@yahoo.com](mailto:nccorvairclub@yahoo.com)

### April 20-21 Springfest, Helen Ga.

Friday autocross and swap meet.

Fri. nite hospitality party, 50/50, vale cover races.

Sat. Concours, people's choice.

Sat. nite awards banquet, tech sessions

Motels: Helendorf Inn 706-878-2271

Best Western 706-878-2111

Super 8 706-878-2191 For all reservations ask for Corvair club rates, before March 20.

### July 25-28 2012 Corsa Int'l Convention in Sturbridge, Mass.

Host Hotel: Sturbridge Host Hotel & Conv. Center  
366 Main Street, Sturbridge, MA. Special room rates.

Wednesday – Autocross, Thursday – Road Rally, Swap Meet, Friday – Valve Cover Racing, Concourse, tech sessions and seminars. Saturday – People's Choice and special events. Check it out!

<http://www.corvair.org/chapters/nccc/convention/index.htm>



## Birthdays

Doris Cleveland - April 8

Joshua Roth - April 9

Billy Cannon - April 21

## Anniversaries

Somebody needs to get married so I can put their names here!

## March VCE Meeting Minutes

The March 16th VCE meeting was held as usual at Fullness Christian Fellowship with 20 members in attendance.

The evening started with an Officer's meeting. The club officers met to review the first draft of the new by-laws. Several were amended and another meeting will be held to finalize the by-laws prior to the membership's vote.

Russ Thuleen gave the Treasurer's Report as Joe Doughty was not in attendance. Russ read Joe's monthly statement. The club currently has \$593 in the bank. That reminded Hoyt to pay his dues right then!

Russ also commented on the CORSA membership report, which won't be due until mid 2012. Russ then gave a report on Jewel and Buck Hinkle. The discussion moved on to the annual Springfest and autocross in Helen, GA next month. Several members will be attending this year. A discussion was held about the April VCE meeting - the third Friday of the month is the first day of Springfest and it was decided that those members in attendance at Springfest will meet 1 hour prior to the banquet,

Russ Thuleen and Billy Cannon will be going to Indianapolis this next week to attend the time trials. They stated that Super Monza is to be at Indy and kits may be available for purchase.

**CORSA**



**From the Editor:**

Thanks to everyone for sending in articles, pictures and web links. I have enough material for a couple of newsletters now, but don't stop sending!!! I appreciate it very much to be able to put this together in an hour or two instead of several hours of finding good web sites, finding something to do on my car for a tech article (Denise thanks you for that too) and researching for material to make a good newsletter.

In this edition we have pictures provided by members at large Chris and Molly from their trip to Myrtle Beach. Molly said they attempted to take the wagon, but only got about 35 miles from home and the wiper motor quit. They ended up taking their Tacoma, but from the looks of the pictures the weather was great and a good time was had by all.

Also in this edition are pics sent in by Richard from Pensacola. Russ Thuleen and Judi Cannon came away with trophies, and Judi's car is gracing the back cover of the latest issue of the Communiqué! Russ also won a small fortune (extremely small) by guessing how long a Corvaire engine would run on a small container of gas.

Me and my Monza are getting to know each other even better. A couple of weekends ago it was over to Russ' garage to learn how to replace push rod tube o-rings and a week before that the Monza got new front brakes. Hope to have the back ones replaced in the next few days and maybe get that pesky clutch adjusted. These cars take some TLC, but they are still cheaper than making car payments on some hokey Accord or Toyota.

It's in the newsletter in several other places, but **NOTE: THE APRIL MEETING WILL BE AT SPRINGFEST ON SATURDAY NIGHT, ONE HOUR BEFORE THE BANQUET.** Contact one of the officers if you need more information. If you are going, I'd recommend hunting up Richard and checking in, just in case the time or place changes.

Take care, drive safe and GET THAT CORVAIR OUT THERE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

- John -

Myrtle Beach pictures from Chris and Molly



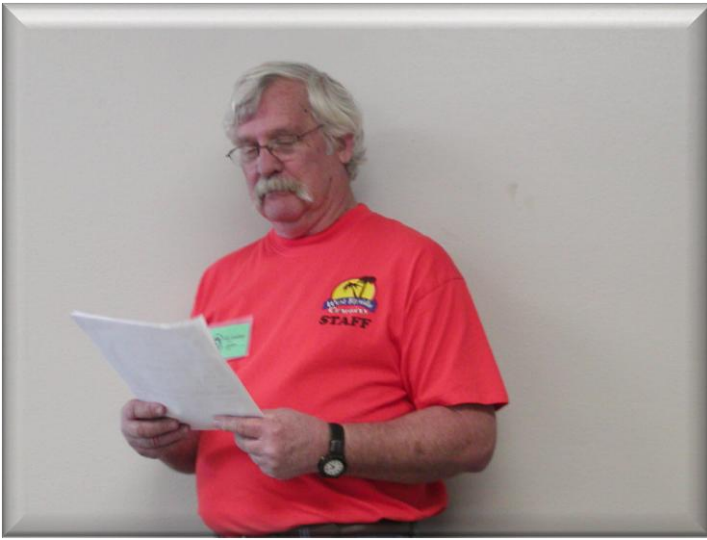




Pictures from Pensacola:







The April meeting will be at Springfest, in Helen, GA. on April 21. We will meet at the FestHalle 1 hour before the banquet on SATURDAY NIGHT.



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*Spring is a wonderful time of the year.  
How's your allergies?*

**Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts  
147 Crossbrook Dr.  
Chelsea, AL. 35043**



# THE OIL DROP

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE VULCAN CORVAIR ENTHUSIASTS Vol 33, No 5

## May 2012

### THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN:

The last meeting for the month of April was held one hour before the banquet in Helen Georgia. We had good attendance in Helen from our club, eighteen I believe, most of which were at the meeting.

Billy Cannon entered the autocross and had a very good time, (I could tell his adrenalin was really flowing after)

Russ Thuleen gave a very informative tech session on rebuilding a Corvaire steering box.

Pete Wood is going to coordinate with Joan Birks about a possible trip to northern Mississippi this summer.

Al and Joan Birks early closed got first place in Concourse. Yours truly got third place in late open in People's Choice.

I assisted in the Concourse judging for engine compartment and trunk and we were one half finished when the judging was called off until after lunch because of heavy rain fall.

In spite of really bad rain showers for about two hours Saturday, the sun came out around 11:30 and it turned out to be a really nice day after all. The hospitality room had good attendance Saturday night and the mood was really festive!

A NOTE OF CAUTION: if anyone is still driving their late model Corvaire and hasn't had their rear wheel bearings taken apart and repacked, or tapped and zerk fittings installed and extra grease put in, you are playing Russian roulette every time you drive your car! Just ask our newsletter editor John Cleveland. He had one wheel bearing go bad on the freeway, lucky it was in town. He and Russ Thuleen decided the other wheel bearing needed to be replaced, so the car got two rebuilt wheel bearings with zerk fittings installed.

### Next Meeting:

Date: Friday, May 18, 2012

Time: 7:00 pm

Place: Fullness Christian Fellowship  
2575 Columbiana Rd. Vestavia Hills, AL.

Bring your honey and something for the pot luck!

Send Oil Drop submissions to:

[monzajohn@charter.net](mailto:monzajohn@charter.net)

Office – 205-325-7654

Cell – 205-834-3120

**NOTE: PLEASE SEND SUBMISSIONS NO LATER THAN THE 25<sup>TH</sup> OF THE MONTH.**

### Web Links 4 U!

If you need a new harmonic balancer try this site. Good price, cash for your core and quick service:

<http://www.damperdoctor.com/>

### **ATTENTION!! Car Show in Columbiana!!**

**We will have at least 6 Corvairs in the Shelby County School of Technology car show on Saturday, May 12. Registration is \$15 the day of the show. It starts at 9 am and runs to 1 pm. Gates open at 7 to get your car in. Lots of things for the family to do. We plan to meet at Russ' and caravan over to Columbiana, but if you want to go directly the address is 701 Hwy 70, Columbiana, AL Rain date is May 19. This is an excellent opportunity for our club to show off. Please plan to bring your Vair!**

## Upcoming Events!

### May 12, Columbiana School of Technology

701 Hiway 70, Columbiana, AL

Car Show – 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Meet at Russ Thuleen's about 8:00 am to caravan over.  
\$15 fee.

### May 18-20, Virginia Vair Fair

Lexington, VA.

Howard Johnson's on Route 11 at I-81, Exit 195.  
540-463-9181. Corvair rate of \$69.96 + tax.  
Tech session, valve cover races, raffles, vendors, autocross, people's choice car show.

### July 25-28 2012 Corsa Int'l Convention in Sturbridge, Mass.

Host Hotel: Sturbridge Host Hotel & Conv. Center  
366 Main Street, Sturbridge, MA. Special room rates.  
Wednesday – Autocross, Thursday – Road Rally, Swap Meet, Friday – Valve Cover Racing, Concourse, tech sessions and seminars. Saturday – People's Choice and special events. Check it out!

<http://www.corvair.org/chapters/necc/convention/index.htm>



## Birthdays

Jessica Steckler – May 20  
Sherri Daniels – May 22  
Floyd Snider – May 25  
Molly Bacon – May 29

## Anniversaries

Chris & Molly – May 29

## April VCE Meeting Minutes

The April VCE meeting was held at Springfest in Helen, GA with 21 people in attendance.

New members Al and Joan Birks were there and won a trophy for their car, and new members Clyde Cork, son Brian and Brian's daughter also attended.

Billy Cannon brought our new small banners to hang in the hall.

We had six Corvairs at the show. Richard Stolzmann and Al Birks both won trophies.

At a later date Al and Joan would like to have a club event at their home in Corinth, MS.

Richard adjourned the meeting.





## **From the Editor:**

### **When Bad Things Happen to Good Corvairs:**

Let's step into my Wayback machine for a few minutes. (remember Peabody and Sherman?)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iU8TbLza3qY> This is painful to recall, but shows the benefits of belonging to a club.

We'll go back to April 7 of this year. I had the car over to Russ' to put new strut rod bushings on. Billy was there to help and the job went well. I was on my way home that afternoon.

The following Thursday, April 12, I took it to get the wheels aligned because of the new bushings and I was taking the car to Springfest. The technician in the shop twisted off one of the camber adjustment bolts and since one of the other four was already twisted off, they wouldn't complete the job. OK, I'll fix them later in the week and I headed to the office.

I got about a mile down the road and my clutch cable snapped. Since I was closer to Russ than I was to home I limped the car over to his place, called my boss to take the day off; called the wife to bring me some work clothes and we went to work putting in a new clutch cable, repairing the twisted off bolts and replacing all the bolts on both sides. We ended up twisting off another one trying to remove it, so out came the drill and the tap and the fun began.

While pulling off the freeway on the way home, as I slowed down I heard a snapping sound coming from the back of the car. It reminded me of the '69 Chevy pickup I had when I was young when it was about to throw a U-joint. I got the car home and jacked it up the next morning to investigate. It was either the outboard u-joint or the wheel bearing, I couldn't tell which. I called Russ for advice and then headed the car back over to his garage.

I had just got on I-65 when something came loose in the back end. I haven't taken the hubs apart yet, but I'm pretty sure I spun the rear wheel bearing on the passenger side. Russ came over to look and we decided to have it towed to my house, then trailered over to his. Thanks to Pete for his assistance with the trailer and the diagnosis. It sounded like something was grinding in the differential. Since Russ needed to prepare for Springfest it was decided nothing would be done to the car until after. There would be no yellow '66 convertible at Helen this year.

Fast forward to Tuesday, April 23. I had ordered new positrack plates and had a new flywheel and some other parts I had purchased a couple of years ago. Pete also dropped a clutch disk off to get resurfaced so we could do that while we were in there. Since we were going to have the drive train out anyway, what the heck?

We still didn't know about the wheel bearing for sure because while loading it up on the tow truck and trailer, plus driving it a short distance, it made absolutely no noise and seemed to drive OK. Later, when we got the strut rods and half shafts disconnected it became apparent the bearing was bad when the hub was turned by hand. A call to Richard netted me two rebuilt rear hubs with new bearings and a rebuilt backup switch, since mine had broke when we removed the connector. Thanks to Richard for keeping rebuilt spare parts around!

Russ and I worked on the car all week. The hubs went on as did the clutch disk, flywheel and a rebuilt harmonic balancer. We had opened up the differential and drained it for a visual inspection, but didn't take it apart, thinking the wheel bearing had caused the noises we heard initially. The ring and pinion were very tight together so we adjusted them correctly, put in new gear lube and put it back together. The drive train was installed on Saturday, April 28. The test drive did not go well; you could hear noise coming from the differential. We pulled the drive train back out the next day, took the differential completely apart and started making a shopping list.

On Monday, April 30, Russ bought new bearings for the differential and I bought a NOS side gear and thrust washer, plus thrust washers for the spider gears. I also got a couple of new u-joints since the mechanic that did the initial work on my car had only replaced one side. We found out why when it took us about 4 hours to press the old ones out (after cutting the bodies away from the caps with a grinding wheel) and pressing the new ones in (after honing the yokes to remove 40+ years of rust and grime).

Evenings through the week it was over to work on the car. By Saturday, May 5 it was ready to be put back in. The installation went well and the test drive even better!

This morning, May 7, it was back to the alignment shop for the alignment I tried to get last month. And my clutch cable didn't even break when I left to go to the office!

I want to thank Russ, Richard, Pete and Billy for lending a hand. I couldn't have gone through this without being a member of a club with members who are willing to step up and help another member in need.

Take care, drive safe and GET THAT CORVAIR OUT THERE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

- John -

## **Cruise-In Locations**

Most of these run from April through October, starting around 5 pm.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Friday**

Gadsden, AL. Broad Street, downtown

### **1<sup>st</sup> Saturday**

Alabaster, AL. DQ in Walmart shopping center

Hanceville, AL. 6-9pm; August; Across from Wallace State.

Hoover, AL. 9am to noon; Krispy Kreme

Odenville, AL. Piggly Wiggly

### **1<sup>st</sup> Sunday**

Decatur, AL. Sonic on 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday**

Argo, AL. Clearbranch Church

Clanton, AL. 6-9pm, Downtown; call 205-755-3164

Hueytown, AL. Walmart

Moody, AL. Bernetti's Ice Cream Parlor 231 Moody Pkway.

Pelham, AL. 4-7pm, Pelham Town Center (Publix & Johnny Ray's); Tank Farm exit.

Pell City, AL. Jacks, near Hwy 78 and 231

McCalla, AL. Target parking lot in Colonial Promenade shopping center.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday**

Argo, AL. Drive In Theater, call 205-467-3434 for times.

Hoover, AL. 6-9pm Krispy Kreme

Pinson, AL. North Park Church on Deerfoot Prkwy

### **4<sup>th</sup> Saturday**

Sylacauga, AL. Home Depot parking lot

Fultondale, AL. Target, exit 267

Gadsden, AL. Ryan's Family Steakhouse, call 256-492-2950

## **Springfest 2012**

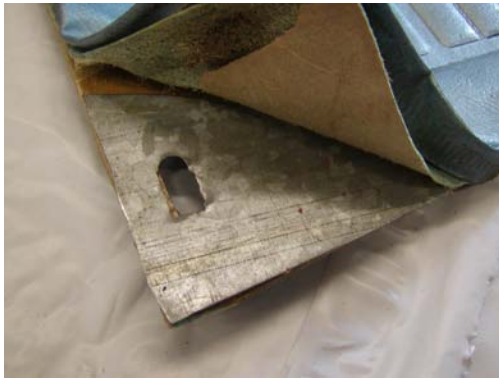






What do you do when you remove a door panel carefully and it still pulls the clip out of the door panel?  
You repair it of course.

First you peel back the vinyl to expose the foam, then take a sharp knife or razor blade to get the foam padding loose. it doesn't hurt to get a thin layer of paper up with the foam.



Next take a piece of sheet metal and drill two holes next to each other for the slot that you will make. Then take a file and file the slot to make a flat on one end.

Last glue the piece of sheet metal on the cardboard in the location where the original slot has pulled out, then glue the foam over area where the metal is, then pull the vinyl around and on to the back of the card board and glue with some good weather strip adhesive. Then you can insert the metal clip on the back into the slot making sure to catch the piece of reinforcing sheet metal.

The same procedure is used where the bottom screw has pulled through the vinyl and cardboard. Only there be sure to drill the appropriate size hole for the screw.



Be sure and remove any burrs from cutting the sheet metal, and make sure to form the sheet metal so the edges curve toward the cardboard you are gluing it to, so you don't have any edges showing through the vinyl when you are done.



**Submitted by Richard Stoltzmann**

Harley Davidson of Montgomery 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Hot Rods & Harleys  
655 NE Blvd, Montgomery, AL. 36117 334-277-2540  
May 26, 2012 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

No Entry Fee, Register day of the show  
Free dash plaque, window sticker & T-Shirt w/ each entry  
50's Music

50/50 Drawing  
Free BBQ plates for each entry

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205/467-6444*

*Vice President: Pete Wood  
205/956-6832*

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*Newsletter: John Cleveland  
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*Treasurer: Joe Doughty  
205/995-0131*

*Hospitality: Harold Hartline*

*Arrangements: Jewel Hinkle*

*Web: <http://www.corvair.org/chapters/chapter352/>*



*For all you Mom's out there  
and  
all you do for us Corvair nuts!*

**Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts**  
147 Crossbrook Dr.  
Chelsea, AL. 35043



# THE OIL DROP

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE VULCAN CORVAIR ENTHUSIASTS Vol 33, No 6

## June 2012

### THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN:

Here it is the 25th of the month already and time for another column. We had a good meeting the 18th of May with 16 members attending and lots of good things to eat.

John Cleveland is still working on the bylaws and will have a draft ready shortly for the members to vote on I believe.

John as you remember lost a rear wheel bearing while in town and he brought them in to the meeting with new parts for me to rebuild them. I had in stock a pair of rebuilt ones that we exchanged. I pressed apart the one that tore up and found that the cages on both the inner and outer bearings destroyed. The other rear wheel bearing looked ok if not a little dry. There was not a bit of extra grease inside the bearing assembly. From the looks of it only the grease that was in there was in the actual bearing itself.

The rollers were still in the bearings, but as you will see by the pictures of the inner and outer bearings that he would not have gone far before the wheel would have flopped over and would have rubbed on the frame as it did on my 67. My first symptom on my 67 was a high pitched squeal and the smoke as tire rubbed on the inner frame.

Everyone is invited to come to my house; your kids and grandkids on the 21st of July for a cookout and swim party. Plan on bringing a covered dish just like for our Friday night meeting. I will be providing hotdogs and hamburgers and all the fixings. The club needs to bring the paper products and plastic glasses. I will need a headcount at our June meeting on the 15th of June.

### Next Meeting:

Date: Friday, June 15, 2012

Time: 7:00 pm

Place: Fullness Christian Fellowship  
2575 Columbiana Rd. Vestavia Hills, AL.

Come have a covered dish dinner that can't beat!

Send Oil Drop submissions to:

[monzajohn@charter.net](mailto:monzajohn@charter.net)

Office – 205-325-7654

Cell – 205-834-3120

**NOTE: PLEASE SEND SUBMISSIONS NO LATER THAN THE 25<sup>TH</sup> OF THE MONTH.**

REFLECTIONS FROM THE SEAT OF AN OLD TRACTOR: The biggest troublemaker you'll ever have to deal with, watches you from the mirror every morning'.





## Upcoming Events!

### July 25-28 2012 Corsa Int'l Convention in Sturbridge, Mass.

Host Hotel: Sturbridge Host Hotel & Conv. Center  
366 Main Street, Sturbridge, MA. Special room rates.  
Wednesday – Autocross, Thursday – Road Rally,  
Swap Meet, Friday – Valve Cover Racing, Concourse,  
tech sessions and seminars. Saturday – People's  
Choice and special events. Check it out!

<http://www.corvair.org/chapters/necc/convention/index.htm>

### Web Links 4 U!

Alabama cruise in information:

North Alabama:

<http://www.noalcarcalendar.9f.com/catalog.html>

All over Alabama:

<http://www.blacktoprebels.com/cruiseins/alabama>

<http://www.arabcustomsandclassics.com/cruise.htm>

<http://riverregionmustangs.com/Shows.html>

<http://www.camaro5.com/forums/showthread.php?t=128298>

Corvair TV

<http://corvair.tv/>



Russ' Rampside

## Birthdays

Sandy Stolzmann - June 4

## Anniversaries

No June weddings

## May VCE Meeting Minutes

The May 18th meeting of the Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts came to order as usual at Fullness Christian Fellowship. The members again provided the delicious potluck meal prior to the meeting. There were 16 members present for the meeting.

Joe Doughty gave the Treasurer's Report. The club currently has a balance of \$622.47 in the bank. John Cleveland has spoken with a lawyer regarding the incorporation papers for the club. More information will be forthcoming.

Members gave a report on the car show held at Shelby School of Technology a couple of weeks ago. Several members had cars on display and although no one won a trophy it was fun just to be there and participate,

General discussion covered where to find and purchase parts and carpet for restoration projects of the Corvair.

There will be a swim party at Richard Stolzmann's house on Saturday, July 21st from 11 AM to 5 PM. Bring a covered dish for the potluck, swim paraphernalia and enjoy some summer fellowship.

John has found a new club recruit! Right under his nose - at Fullness is a church member with a '65 CORSA convertible. John is trying to convince him into joining VCE. No tech session was held this month.



### From the Editor:

Here are some pictures Richard sent of my old rear wheel bearings. Scary stuff!



The car has been back on the road about a month now and all seems well. There is a slight differential noise around 25 mph and the gasket between the differential and transmission is leaking. I think that will be a job for the fall. Now it's time to put the top down and enjoy the summer!

The pictures throughout the newsletter are from the School of Technology car show in Columbiana. VCE had seven cars there, 3 from Russ, 1 each from Billy and Judi Cannon, Ed Keller and John Cleveland.

Take care, drive safe and GET THAT CORVAIR OUT THERE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

- John -

## **Installing grease fittings on rear wheel hubs – Richard Stolzmann**

In the Tech Guide Volume One under Lubrication; page six is the information you need. If your copy is as bad as mine the pictures aren't very good. Here is addition information you need and hopefully some better pictures.



At the nine o'clock or the three o'clock position 1/2 inch from the backing plate drill a 3/16 hole if you are using a grease fitting that has a dimension of 1/4 by 28 NF and tap accordingly.

If you are doing it without taking apart the bearing assembly, drill the 3/16th hole with grease on the bit and only go in 1/4 inch after you drill through. Use a 1/4 by 28 NF tap with grease on it and turn it a few turns and remove and clean the chips off and regrease.

Keep on doing this until you have completed the tapping. Insert grease fitting and grease

until you feel some resistance; that's usually when all the air has gone and the grease has no air pocket to fill. STOP GREASING.

After a couple of days of driving, pull the wheel and check for grease coming out on the outside seal, clean it off and in a couple of days check it again.

Another note: some of my grease fittings were 1/8 by 27 NPT. That's lot bigger so use the larger drill. I have pictures included of both fittings.





## 2012 VCE MEMBER ROSTER

Birks	Al & Joan	<a href="mailto:foxchase123@msn.com">foxchase123@msn.com</a>
Bolton	Art & Vickie	<a href="mailto:arthurbolton@bellsouth.net">arthurbolton@bellsouth.net</a>
Brown/Bacon	Chris & Molly	<a href="mailto:mollybacon@yahoo.com">mollybacon@yahoo.com</a>
Cannon	Billy & Judi	<a href="mailto:gtochief@gmail.com">gtochief@gmail.com</a>
Cannon	Shawn	
Cleveland	John & Denise	<a href="mailto:djcleveland@charter.net">djcleveland@charter.net</a>
Cleveland	Richard & Doris	
Daniels	Steve & Sherri	<a href="mailto:sddaniel@bellsouth.net">sddaniel@bellsouth.net</a>
Doughty	Joe & Rozelle	<a href="mailto:jandrdoughty@bellsouth.net">jandrdoughty@bellsouth.net</a>
Dutton	Roy & Connie	<a href="mailto:duttoncallers2@bellsouth.net">duttoncallers2@bellsouth.net</a>
Hartline	Phil & Caroll	<a href="mailto:philandcaroll@att.net">philandcaroll@att.net</a>
Hartline	Harold & Louise	<a href="mailto:louise1965@earthlink.net">louise1965@earthlink.net</a>
Hinkle	Buck & Jewell	
Hunter	Mickey & Robin	<a href="mailto:mdhunter1@bellsouth.net">mdhunter1@bellsouth.net</a>
Keller	Ed & Carol	<a href="mailto:Ed-ekps119@bellsouth.net">Ed- ekps119@bellsouth.net</a>
		<a href="mailto:Carol-doublesonly@bellsouth.net">Carol- doublesonly@bellsouth.net</a>
Mann	Hoyt	<a href="mailto:jpmanhoyt@aol.com">jpmanhoyt@aol.com</a>
Miller	Joyce	<a href="mailto:retiredcouple@juno.com">retiredcouple@juno.com</a>
Miller	Linda	<a href="mailto:ljmkoko@gmail.com">ljmkoko@gmail.com</a>
Noble	Russell & Debbie	<a href="mailto:rtnoble@southernco.com">rtnoble@southernco.com</a>
Popinski	Joe & Carol	<a href="mailto:jpopsinski3@aol.com">jpopsinski3@aol.com</a>
Roth	Chris	<a href="mailto:ag4ab@att.net">ag4ab@att.net</a>
Siemens	Bob & Wilma	<a href="mailto:rsiemens@charter.net">rsiemens@charter.net</a>
Snider	Floyd T.	
Steckler	Leslie	<a href="mailto:vairluvr@aol.com">vairluvr@aol.com</a>
Stolzmann	Richard & Sandy	<a href="mailto:richeyrich43@hotmail.com">richeyrich43@hotmail.com</a>
Sweet	William & Virginia	<a href="mailto:wsweet01@att.net">wsweet01@att.net</a>
Thuleen	Russ	<a href="mailto:rampsideruss@aol.com">rampsideruss@aol.com</a>
	Leslie	
	Jessica	
Witkos	Dick & Barbara	<a href="mailto:Bwitkos@centurytel.net">Bwitkos@centurytel.net</a>
Wood	Pete	<a href="mailto:woodpet@bellsouth.net">woodpet@bellsouth.net</a>



## **Cruise-In Locations**

Most of these run from April through October, starting around 5 pm.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Friday**

Gadsden, AL. Broad Street, downtown

### **1<sup>st</sup> Saturday**

Alabaster, AL. DQ in Wal-Mart shopping center

Alexander City, AL. Arby's in front of Wal-Mart, Hwy 280. 256-234-7154

Birmingham, AL. Hamburger Heaven, Hwy 280. 205-663-9299

Hanceville, AL. 6-9pm; through October; Across from Wallace State.

Hoover, AL. 9am to noon; Krispy Kreme

Odenville, AL. Piggly Wiggly

Oxford, AL. Quiznos/Kmart, Hwy 78 & 21. 256-362-9346

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday**

Argo, AL. Clearbranch Church

Clanton, AL. 6-9pm, Downtown; call 205-755-3164

Dodge City, AL. Jack's, 325 Hwy 69 South, I-65 exit 299. 5-9 pm 256-339-0708

Hueytown, AL. Wal-Mart

McCalla, AL. Target parking lot in Colonial Promenade shopping center.

Moody, AL. Bernetti's Ice Cream Parlor 231 Moody Pkway.

Pelham, AL. 4-7pm, Pelham Town Center (Publix & Johnny Ray's); Tank Farm exit.

Pell City, AL. Jacks, near Hwy 78 and 231

Springville, AL. OneEighty campus (next to Burtons) 5770 US Hwy 11. 205-789-0017

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday**

Anniston, AL. Noble Street Downtown 256-237-5250

Argo, AL. Drive In Theater, call 205-467-3434 for times.

Decatur, AL. Steak n Shake through July. 6-9 pm. 205-686-0759

Gadsden, AL. Sonic, Hwy 278

Hoover, AL. 6-9pm Krispy Kreme

Munford, AL. Big Daddy's BBQ, Hwy 21 256-358-4888

Pinson, AL. North Park Church on Deerfoot Prkwy

Sylacauga, AL. Wal-Mart, Hwy 280 256-378-6129

### **4<sup>th</sup> Saturday**

Fultondale, AL. Target, Fultondale Colonial Mall. exit 267 5-9 pm. 205-841-8311

Gadsden, AL. Ryan's Family Steakhouse, call 256-492-2950

Rainbow City, AL. Charlie & Casey's Pit BBQ, 3225 Rainbow Dr. 256-492-2950.



**John's convertible and Billy's coupe**



**Judi's convertible**



**Russ' coupe and convertible**



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*Ed Keller's convertible at the School of Technology show in Columbiana*

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147 Crossbrook Dr.  
Chelsea, AL. 35043**



# THE OIL DROP

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE VULCAN CORVAIR ENTHUSIASTS Vol 33, No 7

## JULY 2012

### THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN:

We had a good June meeting, great food and a great meeting. I brought to the meeting the wheel bearing from John Cleveland's car that felt rough, the one that was still turning. The outer bearing had some rough spots in it. It was the inner race and we could not see it without cutting up the bearing cage. I will take and cut the cage so we can see what is bad in time for the next meeting. Russ brought in a Corvaire head and showed how to remove a valve spring with the head still on the car.

Speaking of the next meeting: it will be at my house on Saturday July 21st. We will combine a meeting with a swim party, and a cookout. The time is from 11 AM till around 5 PM. I will be cooking hamburgers and hotdogs and supply the trimmings for them. Everyone bring appropriate food to go with the hamburgers and hotdogs. This party is for big kids (some people like me never grow up) and little kids, grandkids, so bring a bathing suit! My address for those with a GPS is (376 Burgess Drive, Springville 35146) For those who need directions take I59 North out of Birmingham and exit at exit 154. Go left over the freeway, go over railroad tracks. Go straight through the 4 way stop. Go approximately 3/4 mile, then take left onto Bradford road. In 1/4 of mile take a left onto Burgess Drive. Go 1/3 mile, my mailbox is on the right, opposite a board fence.

### Next Meeting:

Date: SATURDAY, July 21, 2012

Time: 11:00 am to 5:00 pm

Place: Richard's house – POOL PARTY!!!!

376 Burgess Dr., Springville, AL. 35146

See the President's Column for details!

Directions are in the newsletter.

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NOTE OBEY SPEED LIMITS, SPEED TRAP ON ROAD BEFORE BRADFORD ROAD. (Also I need everyone who plans to attend to RSVP by e-mail or call on the phone. I need a headcount, THANKS!!)

ADVICE FROM AN OLD FARMER FROM THE SEAT OF A TRACTOR: (The best sermons are lived, not preached.)



## Upcoming Events!

### July 25-28 2012 Corsa Int'l Convention in Sturbridge, Mass.

Host Hotel: Sturbridge Host Hotel & Conv. Center  
366 Main Street, Sturbridge, MA. Special room rates.  
Wednesday – Autocross, Thursday – Road Rally,  
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tech sessions and seminars. Saturday – People's  
Choice and special events. Check it out!

<http://www.corvair.org/chapters/necc/convention/index.htm>

## Web Links 4 U!

Corvair parts: bearings and such:  
[www.partsgeek.com](http://www.partsgeek.com)

From Arizona, some good tech tips and projects:  
<http://www.persh.org/corvair.htm>

Another U Tube video, u got to c it to believe it:  
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tsZGshrc\\_7I](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tsZGshrc_7I)

Corvair Atlanta has a new web site:  
<http://corvairatlanta.org/>

Corvairs and parts:  
<http://www.corvairsandparts.com/>

## Birthdays

Ed Keller – July 2  
Leslie Steckler – July 6  
Russell Noble – July 17  
John Cleveland – July 26

## Anniversaries

John & Denise Cleveland – July 29  
35 years!

## June VCE Meeting Minutes

The meeting of the VCE for the month of June was held on the 22nd at Fullness Christian Fellowship. Preceded by the usual delicious potluck supper, the members shared laughs and caught up with each other prior to the start of the business.

There were 17 members present and Billy Cannon went through the membership roster to make sure it was current and find out if others knew about those members who hadn't attended a meeting in the past few months. He will be sending out info sheets to the membership to list their cars (year, model and name). A drawing was held for door prizes provided from the model car collection of Buck Hinkle.

President Richard Stolzmann talked about the pool party at his house on July 21st from 11am to 5pm.

The meeting was adjourned and Russ Thuleen held a tech session on how to replace a broken valve spring.

A stylized, metallic-looking logo for the word "CORSICA". The letters are bold and have a 3D, reflective appearance, with the 'O's being particularly prominent.

Check out a new novel by Central Virginia Corvair member Jonathan Rintels. Titled 'Lifemobile' it tells the story of the purchase of a Corvair and its effect on the relationship between a father and his sons. Based on his real life experience of buying a '65 Corsa and how it brought him and his children, one of whom has Asperger's Syndrome, closer together. Available on Amazon.com with a preview of the book so you can try before you buy.



## **From the Editor:**

For those of you that don't read the 30 or so newsletters that come to us every month, here's some information to share:

### Motor Oil:

There has been some buzz about a new Quaker State formulation called Defy that has a 'proprietary zinc booster' for protection of flat tappet engines. This is synthetic oil. I spotted it at Wal Mart for less than \$5 per quart.

[www.quakerstate.com](http://www.quakerstate.com)

Also at Wal Mart I spied an Accel brand oil advertised for cars made before 1988 in 10W30 and 10W40 that meets the old SF specification. This is a multi viscosity detergent oil. It was selling for less than \$3 per quart. I couldn't find any information about it on Wal Mart's web site or the internet in general.

Thanks to the Niagara club for the information about these oils in their newsletter. They also mentioned an SF spec motor oil at Dollar General, but I haven't investigated that one.

NAPA also sells an SF spec oil with higher levels of ZDDP. I have been unable to find it locally, but I'm sure they would order it in for you. They do have it on line. There is also Kendall GT-1 which I haven't seen locally either.

I have been using Mobil1 Turbo Diesel Truck oil, 5-40, since I took the break in oil out 30K miles ago. I have some concerns about it being high detergent oil, but haven't had any issues. The main problem is that it is getting close to \$9 per quart and oil changes are getting painful.

### Differential Bearings for a '66 (or late model):

The SKF part numbers are M88010, M88048, LM603049 and LM603011. These are available locally and can be cross referenced if the place doesn't carry SKF.

### U Joints for a '66 (or late model):

NEA 1-0153. These are also available locally and can be cross referenced.

Take care, drive safe and GET THAT CORVAIR OUT THERE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

- John -



At our June meeting Bryan Cork mentioned a cruise in sponsored by the church his family attends, the Renew United Methodist Church in Hayden. The event was held at Froggy's, a family fun center just off Hwy. 31. Your editor attended the event, which had about 40 cars and quite a few people in attendance. I believe this was their first annual and they did it up



right. Great music by a live band, excellent food (free) and some good door prizes. The people were great and it was a good time, thanks Bryan for mentioning it.





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Munford, AL. Big Daddy's BBQ, Hwy 21 256-358-4888

Pinson, AL. North Park Church on Deerfoot Prkwy

Sylacauga, AL. Wal-Mart, Hwy 280 256-378-6129

### **4<sup>th</sup> Saturday**

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Gadsden, AL. Ryan's Family Steakhouse, call 256-492-2950

Rainbow City, AL. Charlie & Casey's Pit BBQ, 3225 Rainbow Dr. 256-492-2950.

## ***The Long or Short Version?***

### **By Russell Noble (March '05)**

When Debbie and I were married at the County 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?" Not hesitating, 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 County Library. Yes sir, memories of that 283/PG Impala (sold) and the '70 Cougar (totaled) that lost a mighty battle with a nasty guy wire and 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, what a gorgeous car indeed. Never seen anything like it. I was smitten.

I mauled 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 with 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 lots, ads, etc. I took to the streets on my Honda and scoured the neighborhoods looking in garages, carports, wherever. I crossed a few of the 'boxy' early models, even a Spyder. 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.

Cont. next page

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 on Maxwell AFB. Knowing that (for some 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. A 1966 Corsa with a 140/4sp, duals, and a posi. Man, that thing was smooth and pretty fast in its own way.

Now for the bad stuff. The car was hit in the left back quarter that also bent the bumper. The windshield was cracked. Paint bubbling in both lower windshield corners. 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. Sort of like this:

Bumper - \$15	Windshield - \$10
Bondo - \$7	Sweat and elbow grease - \$0
Two quarts of Chevy ‘mid’ blue - \$30	Spray fee - \$35
Sharp, clean 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. I was working the summer at Mears’ Garage on the 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 and I did the math in my head and blurted out, “I’ll take \$650 for it.” He pulled out his wallet and popped six Franklin’s and one Hamilton in my hand and took the keys. An hour later he was back and the Corvair was gone. That was 1978 and I still had a Goat, but I was sick, really sick.

Editor’s Note: As we all know, Russell ‘took the cure’ by getting another ‘Vair’. It’s the only way to feel good, really good.

### **Directions to Richard’s house from I-59.**

Take I-59 exit 154.

Go left over the freeway, go over railroad tracks. Go straight through the 4 way stop.

Go approximately 3/4 mile, then take left onto Bradford road.

In 1/4 of mile take a left onto Burgess Drive.

Go 1/3 mile, my mailbox is on the right, opposite a board fence. 376 Burgess Drive.





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*Web: <http://www.corvair.org/chapters/chapter352/>*



***Where the people possess no authority,  
their rights obtain no respect.***

*G. Bancroft*

**Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts  
147 Crossbrook Dr.  
Chelsea, AL. 35043**



# THE OIL DROP

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE VULCAN CORVAIR ENTHUSIASTS Vol 33, No 8

## August 2012

### THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN:

First I want to apologize to Clyde Cork for him showing up at my cancelled swim party. I think we dropped the ball as far as member notification of the cancelled swim party.

Second; I'm sorry I missed meeting our new members from Georgia, Chris Brown and Molly Bacon.

Well all I can say is make sure that you wear your bicycle helmet when you ride your mountain bike, or when you crash it you will wind up in the hospital with a concussion and have hospital stay for 10 days. The down side of my concussion is that it affected my fine motor control, which means all the automatic brain control which you don't even think about, such as balance. You have to think about it and it makes you slow moving. I'm improving every day and soon will be back to normal; in about a month; whatever normal means!!!

ADVICE FROM THE SEAT OF AN OLD TRACTOR: Life is simpler when you plow around the stump!!

THANKS TO ALL OF YOU FOR THE GET WELL CARD.

### Next Meeting:

Date: Friday, August 17, 2012

Time: 7:00 pm

Place: Fullness Christian Fellowship  
2575 Columbiana Rd. Vestavia Hills, AL.

Come have a covered dish dinner that can't beat!

Send Oil Drop submissions to:

[monzajohn@charter.net](mailto:monzajohn@charter.net)

Office – 205-325-7654

Cell – 205-834-3120

**NOTE: PLEASE SEND SUBMISSIONS NO LATER THAN THE 25<sup>TH</sup> OF THE MONTH.**

### Web Links 4 U!

Need rubber products for your Vair?

[www.steelerubber.com](http://www.steelerubber.com)

[www.rockauto.com](http://www.rockauto.com)

[www.andysautosport.com](http://www.andysautosport.com)





## Upcoming Events!

**Corvair Show and Banquet hosted by the East TN. Corvair club.** Sept. 21, 22. Awards for 8 classes and Best of Show. Host is LaQuinta Inn, 10150 Airport Pkwy, off I-81, exit 63. Phone: 423-323-0500. Ask for Corvair rate of \$57 double or \$63 king. Club contact: 423-245-2723.

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**Vairs in the Valley in Maggie Valley, NC hosted by Corsa/NC.** Oct. 12 and 13<sup>th</sup>. Friday rally, parade, free celebration supper. Sat. free breakfast, People's Choice car and model car show, valve cover races, door prizes, awards ceremony. Host is Smoky Falls Lodge, 2550 Soco Rd., Maggie Valley, NC. Phone: 877-926-7440. Register at [www.ncmountaincorvairs.com](http://www.ncmountaincorvairs.com)

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## Birthdays

Patrick Daniels - Aug. 3  
Chris Brown - Aug. 6

## Anniversaries

Mr. & Mrs. Hoyt Mann - Aug. 21

## July VCE Meeting Minutes

The July meeting of the VCE met on Friday, July 20th at Fullness Christian Fellowship in Vestavia. There were 19 people present and all enjoyed the usual delicious potluck supper before the meeting.

A report was given on Richard Stoltzmann's accident and members discussed their visits or phone calls with him. He is looking to be sent home soon. Keep Richard in your prayers for a speedy recovery. With the absence of both President Richard and VP Pete Wood, the meeting was called to order by Russell Thuleen.

Joe Doughty gave his Treasurer's Report, stating the club had a balance of \$614. Billy Cannon gave a report on the database he has created for the club cars (collectibles both Corvair and not).

A visit from new members Chris and Molly from Georgia was the highlight of the evening! Also, news that Hoyt's car is now finished and road worthy.

A copy of a new club logo was distributed and it was noted our new logo and club banners were obtained from Buildasign.com.

Billy lead a discussion on area car shows - one is slated for Kingsport, Tennessee and one for Pickles Market in Sylacauga this Saturday (7/28).

Ed reported on AACA in Tennessee. No other business to discuss the meeting was moved to adjourn by Russell Noble.



**From the Editor:**

First, just a quick thanks to Russ for the use of his lift and expert assistance to help me pull my drive train AGAIN! Tried to short cut the last time and didn't replace the pilot bushing. After about 3 weeks it started making small obscene noises. About a week later it turned in to large obscene noises and it was getting really embarrassing to drive the car. I started out in the parking garage one day after work and a lady dropped all the stuff she was carrying when I let the clutch out. Thought I could endure until the fall, but that did it. Thanks again, Russ.

That's it from the editor's desk, so...

Take care, drive safe and GET THAT CORVAIR OUT THERE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

- John -

**Corvaire Door Drainage Holes**

Some pictures of a typical Corvaire door, both front and back on a 2 or 4 door.



Notice the factory drainage holes are not near the end of the doors. This means that if the car is parked on a slant uphill or downhill, that an inch of water could stay in the door plus all the dirt, causing it to rust out on the edges.



I punched three places close to together on the front and rear bottom of the door then took a 1/8 drill and drilled 3 holes. I then took a Dremel tool and enlarged it to make a smooth slot. Now it will drain completely even if the car is parked uphill or downhill and it is at the bottom of the door so all the water will drain out;

Richard





## **Cruise-In Locations**

Most of these run from April through October, starting around 5 pm.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Friday**

Gadsden, AL. Broad Street, downtown

### **1<sup>st</sup> Saturday**

Alabaster, AL. DQ in Wal-Mart shopping center

Alexander City, AL. Arby's in front of Wal-Mart, Hwy 280. 256-234-7154

Birmingham, AL. Hamburger Heaven, Hwy 280. 205-663-9299

Hanceville, AL. 6-9pm; through October; Across from Wallace State.

Hoover, AL. 9am to noon; Krispy Kreme

Odenville, AL. Piggly Wiggly

Oxford, AL. Quiznos/Kmart, Hwy 78 & 21. 256-362-9346

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday**

Argo, AL. Clearbranch Church

Clanton, AL. 6-9pm, Downtown; call 205-755-3164

Dodge City, AL. Jack's, 325 Hwy 69 South, I-65 exit 299. 5-9 pm 256-339-0708

Hueytown, AL. Walmart

McCalla, AL. Target parking lot in Colonial Promenade shopping center.

Moody, AL. Bernetti's Ice Cream Parlor 231 Moody Pkway.

Pelham, AL. 4-7pm, Pelham Town Center (Publix & Johnny Ray's); Tank Farm exit.

Pell City, AL. Jacks, near Hwy 78 and 231

Springville, AL. OneEighty campus (next to Burtons) 5770 US Hwy 11. 205-789-0017

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday**

Anniston, AL. Noble Street Downtown 256-237-5250

Argo, AL. Drive In Theater, call 205-467-3434 for times.

Decatur, AL. Steak n Shake through July. 6-9 pm. 205-686-0759

Gadsden, AL. Sonic, Hwy 278

Hoover, AL. 6-9pm Krispy Kreme

Munford, AL. Big Daddy's BBQ, Hwy 21 256-358-4888

Pinson, AL. North Park Church on Deerfoot Prkwy

Sylacauga, AL. WalMart, Hwy 280 256-378-6129

### **4<sup>th</sup> Saturday**

Fultondale, AL. Target, Fultondale Colonial Mall. exit 267 5-9 pm. 205-841-8311

Gadsden, AL. Ryan's Family Steakhouse, call 256-492-2950

Rainbow City, AL. Charlie & Casey's Pit BBQ, 3225 Rainbow Dr. 256-492-2950.

## **Body By Fisher**

The original Fisher Body Company was formed in Detroit, Michigan, in 1908 by brothers Fred and Charles Fisher, who were experienced coach craftsmen of the third generation.



Their grandfather had been skilled in the art of building carriages in Germany before the family moved to America in 1835, eventually settling in the area of Norwalk, Ohio. Their father, Lawrence Fisher, was a carriage builder and trained them in the craft at his blacksmith shop, and stressed craftsmanship above all else. Their uncle, Albert A. Fisher, had become a successful carriage maker and was based in Detroit.

Uncle Albert helped finance the endeavor but soon wanted out. Fred and Charles had wild enthusiasm and ambition towards building inexpensive closed cars, which had previously been only available on luxury cars of the day, as open cars with wooden frames were common in the early days of the industry.

Eventually, they brought their other brothers (Lawrence P., William, Edward, Alfred and Howard) into the business.

The Fisher brothers also knew that these new automobiles — which put power to the ground via its rear wheels — needed an entirely different technology to deal with the greatly different stresses on the body as compared to the horse-drawn carriages which were pulled from the front. In addition, these new bodies would require suitable engineering advances to deal with the greater vibrations and higher speeds that went along with the motorized vehicles.

As Fisher's volume went up, their unit price per closed body went down, which greatly helped make these closed cars more popular with the customers.

In 1919, a deal made between William C. Durant of General Motors and Fred Fisher gave GM three-fifths interest in the thriving Fisher Body Corporation. The 300,000 shares of common stock was worth some \$27.6 million, and General Motors now could be assured that Fisher would build their car bodies in the future.

By 1920, Fisher had developed scientific insulation to reduce road noise as well as providing greater occupant comfort against the weather. In 1923, Fisher Body made one of its most important contributions to the automobile world when it pioneered the use of lacquer instead of paint and varnish for the bodies. This proved to be one of the greatest advantages toward attaining volume production, thereby helping to bring the closed car within reach of the average buyer. This new painting process meant that instead of taking four weeks to paint and trim a body finished in varnish; it now took only six hours. This new method also permitted a greater variation in color finishes, which greatly helped satisfy the growing public interest in colors. The use of a lacquer finish greatly contributed to the new possibilities in automobile styling.

Fisher adopted a Napoleonic coach as its company logo in 1923. The emblem was designed to symbolize the ultimate in hand-built craftsmanship. The design itself was a combination of two French coaches — one used at Napoleon's coronation ceremony and the other at his wedding to Marie Louise of Habsburg-Lorraine, Arch-Duchess of Austria.

In 1926, General Motors purchased the outstanding minority interest in Fisher Body, making it a division of GM.

The 1930s saw a number of "Fisher Firsts" which included "No Draft Ventilation" in 1933, which was the addition of side vent windows that utilized air currents generated by the forward movement of the vehicle to prevent inside window fogging, cool the interior in hot weather, remove smoke and to bring in fresh air. Another development came in 1935 with the one-piece Turret Top, where the roof of the car was drawn and formed from a single sheet of seamless steel.

In 1936, the first "Unisteel" Body by Fisher, created by welding the steel inner and outer panels into a permanent shock-resisting structural unit, came into being. That same year brought dual windshield wipers, front door arm rests and inside door locks as Fisher firsts.

After General Motor's involvement in Fisher Body, there was a big push in the way of national advertising of the complete line of GM automobiles with "Body by Fisher."

To anyone who has owned or ridden in a General Motors product over the years, they would have seen the oval-shaped "Body by Fisher" Napoleonic emblem that was usually mounted in the doorsill area of the vehicle, or on the sides of the seat frame.

The last of the Fisher brothers died in 1972 and the seven brothers left a legacy that will long be remembered. In 1984, someone at General Motors felt it would be best to disband the Fisher Body Division and just identify it as the General Motor's own assembly plants. By doing this, and dissolving all of the famed "Body by Fisher" legacy, a great deal of the history that was such an important part of General Motors growth from the 1920s all the way to the early 1980s could no longer be communicated.

The move came to eventually remove the "Body by Fisher" insignias on General Motors vehicles. Muscle car era GM cars being restored today and those prior still wear the Body Fisher script.

*Integral bodies of our beloved Corvairs pass through the paint booths at Willow Run plant in Michigan*



by



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*President: Richard Stoltzmann  
205/467-6444*

*Vice President: Pete Wood  
205/956-6832*

*Secretary: Russ Thuleen  
205/678-7979*

*Newsletter: John Cleveland  
205/834-3120*

*Treasurer: Joe Doughty  
205/995-0131*

*Hospitality: Harold Hartline*

*Arrangements: Judi Cannon*

*Web: <http://www.corvair.org/chapters/chapter352/>*



July – Hot and Dry!

Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts  
147 Crossbrook Dr.  
Chelsea, AL. 35043



# THE OIL DROP

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE VULCAN CORVAIR ENTHUSIASTS Vol 33, No 9

## SEPTEMBER, 2012

### THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN:

I am glad to say that I could attend last month's meeting. We had a low turnout but the food was good. On new business we have Vairs at the fair October 5th, 6th and return date of Sunday the 7th. We had a show of hands and a few members are going to caravan down on October 4th, Thursday including yours truly. Thanks to Russ and Billy Cannon for the slide show and tech session.

Another follow up on the rear wheel bearing from John Cleveland's Corvair. John and Russ replaced both rear bearings including the left side. From the picture I took of the inner race of the left side, John is probable glad he did. The bearing felt rough on the Corvair and rough when it was turned in my hand. In the picture I hope you can see the area that is bad. It is about 1/2 inch wide, and the bearing probably would not have lasted long.

REFLECTIONS FROM THE SEAT OF AN OLD TRACTOR: Most of the stuff people worry about isn't never going to happen anyway.

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### Web Links 4 U!

Corsa has done a lot of work on their site. They are doing a great job. Check it out!

[www.corvair.org](http://www.corvair.org)

Good music, neat cars. Thanks Richard for the link:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sDc0ID6PJeg&feature=youtu.be>

Left rear wheel bearing race from John's '66 Monza





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## Birthdays

Judi Cannon - Sept. 9  
Buck Hinkle - Sept. 11

## Anniversaries

Ed & Carol Keller - Sept. 27

## August VCE Meeting Minutes

The August meeting of the Birmingham VCE club was held on Friday, August 17th at Fullness Christian Fellowship. The meeting was preceded by the usual delicious potluck meal provided by the members.

Once the meeting was called to order, Joe's Treasurer's report was given. The club currently has \$574.00 in the account.

Russ Thuleen met former club member, Larry Gulsby, at the Alabaster Cruise-in recently. Larry stated he would be returning to the club and attending a meeting soon.

Billy Cannon and Russ took a drive up to the Hunter house in Hanceville to pick up their '66 Coupe. Billy plans to restore the coupe for his growing collection.

Russ has finally gotten his '66 Coupe into the shop and it is being painted. We look forward to seeing it restored to its original luster soon! On the same note of repair and install, Judi Cannon is currently having the top on her deliciously purple convertible installed.

Report was given on Jewel's eyes. The infection has cleared up, but she will be having cataract surgery in November.

Billy discussed the new roster and asked again for updates.



## **Cruise-In Locations**

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### **1<sup>st</sup> Friday**

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### **1<sup>st</sup> Saturday**

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## **From the Editor:**

It's been nice to have over a month this summer without car worries, other than making sure the top is up before it starts to rain. Lots of great drive time and I have had time to get a coat of wax on plus some general fiddling around.

Now it's time to start a general inspection to make sure the car is road worthy for a trip to Oklahoma to attend my high school homecoming car show and parade. Maybe even put an electric fuel pump on before the trip. My dad and I have talked about having both our cars in the homecoming parade and show, and now that he has decided to sell his car, this will be the last opportunity. The last time I took my car back there, on the return trip I made about 20 miles and the fuel pump went out. And me with no spare! But I got to spend a couple extra days with my parents and a couple of sibs, so it was worth it.

This will be the same weekend as Vairs at the Fair, so I won't be in the VCE caravan to that event. It looks like VCE will have a good turnout there. Hope Billy can get his buggy ready for it. Between Judi's purple convertible and his buggy they will definitely spice up the parade.

Richard sent me a couple of pictures of my left rear wheel bearing race, one of which is on page one. I'm not a big fan of running until failure, and it's a wonder that all the bearing issues happened less than five miles from home. Even after hauling it to Russ' to use his lift, the car was driven on and off the trailer, then up the hill to his shop. These are tough little cars.

I've only made one cruise in this summer. It seems that every Saturday evening the clouds roll up, thunder and lightning start and here comes the rain. Got all ready to go to Alabaster last Saturday and it was raining so hard at my house I could barely see across the street. I had just got Denise's truck washed up for her and it hadn't been in the garage an hour.

Enough rambling from me. Hope this finds all of you well and within 20 ft. of your Corvair.

Take care, drive safe and GET THAT CORVAIR OUT THERE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

- John -

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*Web: <http://www.corvair.org/chapters/chapter352/>*



Time to start thinking about a Fall drive!

**Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts**  
147 Crossbrook Dr.  
Chelsea, AL. 35043





# THE OIL DROP

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE VULCAN CORVAIR ENTHUSIASTS Vol 33, No 10

*October, 2012*

## THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN:

I am sorry to say I missed the September meeting because of a planned trip to Gulf Shores that was planned for the week before, but because of relatives visiting it had to be delayed for a week. The weather was terrific at the gulf and the water was nice and warm still. Russ and Billy weren't at the meeting also as they went to a car show up North. I'm looking forward to Warner Robins in October. I'll see all who are going at Warner Robins next week!

As far as my current project, restoring the 4 door automatic, I'm just now putting the last door together after stripping and rust proofing all four doors. I will pull the body out of the shed and put it on the rotisserie in the next few weeks.

REFLECTIONS FROM THE SEAT OF AN OLD TRACTOR; (Don't judge folks by their relatives).



## Next Meeting:

Date: Friday, October. 19, 2012

Time: 7:00 pm

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[www.corvair.org](http://www.corvair.org)

Good music, neat cars. Thanks Richard for the links:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sDc0ID6PJeg&feature=youtu.be>

Bear counting in Canada. This is a hoot!

[http://www.youtube.com/watch\\_popup?v=vJRDpTUIrJI&vq=medium](http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=vJRDpTUIrJI&vq=medium)

Jay Leno's video address to the CORSA convention:

<http://corsa2012.blogspot.com/>

101 year old woman drives an 81 year old car:

[Click Here: Two Classics, One Car.mp4 - YouTube](#)

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**Winter Retreat in Pigeon Forge, TN hosted by the East TN Corvair club.** Jan. 11-13. No planned events, just spending time with Corvair friends. Best Western Toni Inn, 3810 Parkway, Pigeon Forge, TN. 865-453-9058 and mention Corvair for \$44 + tax room.

**Corvair Lover's Holiday, Pensacola Beach, FL.** Feb. 15-16. Dinner Friday, Door prizes, 50/50, valve cover races, Ladies get together and more! Days Inn, Pensacola Beachfront.



## Birthdays

Jewell Hinkle - Oct. 1  
Shawn Cannon - Oct. 10  
Rozelle Doughty - Oct. 10  
Debbie Noble - Oct. 14  
Steve Daniels - Oct. 24  
Harold Hartline - Oct. 27

## Anniversaries

Harold & Louise Hartline - Oct. 1  
Steve & Sheri Daniels - Oct. 18  
Richard & Sandy Stolzmann - Oct. 20  
Billy & Judi Cannon - Oct. 30

## September VCE Meeting Minutes

The September meeting of the Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts was called to order by VP Pete Wood on Friday, Sept. 21st at Fullness Christian Fellowship. There were 16 members in attendance.

There were several members absent, therefore the meeting was short. President Richard Stolzmann, was out of town and did not attend. Billy Cannon and Russ Thuleen were at a Corvair event up in NE Tennessee.

Treasurer Joe Doughty was not in attendance, so his report was not available. There seemed to be little business that needed attention, but those present did chat about the upcoming trip to Warner Robbins and Maggie Valley.

Ed Keller mentioned the AACA 'Fall Foliage Tour' was going to be on Oct. 6th. He will forward information to Russell Noble, who will in turn mass email it to the VCE membership if interested.

Our new members from Georgia - Molly & Chris joined the group this month and brought with them a slide show from the Detroit Homecoming. John quickly set up a projector and the membership viewed all makes and models of vehicles seen at the event. Thanks Molly & Chris for sharing!

There was no tech session and so the meeting was adjourned.



**WANTED:** Newsletter editor for the Oil Drop. Beginning Jan. 1, 2013. Long hours, low pay, great benefits! Elections are in December, BE THERE!!!

## **Cruise-In Locations**

Most of these run from April through October, starting around 5 pm.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Friday**

Gadsden, AL. Broad Street, downtown

### **1<sup>st</sup> Saturday**

Alabaster, AL. DQ in Wal-Mart shopping center

Alexander City, AL. Arby's in front of Wal-Mart, Hwy 280. 256-234-7154

Birmingham, AL. Hamburger Heaven, Hwy 280. 205-663-9299

Hanceville, AL. 6-9pm; through October; Across from Wallace State.

Hoover, AL. 9am to noon; Krispy Kreme

Odenville, AL. Piggly Wiggly

Oxford, AL. Quiznos/Kmart, Hwy 78 & 21. 256-362-9346

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday**

Argo, AL. Clearbranch Church

Clanton, AL. 6-9pm, Downtown; call 205-755-3164

Dodge City, AL. Jack's, 325 Hwy 69 South, I-65 exit 299. 5-9 pm 256-339-0708

Hueytown, AL. Wal-Mart

McCalla, AL. Target parking lot in Colonial Promenade shopping center.

Moody, AL. Bernetti's Ice Cream Parlor 231 Moody Pkway.

Pelham, AL. 4-7pm, Pelham Town Center (Publix & Johnny Ray's); Tank Farm exit.

Pell City, AL. Jacks, near Hwy 78 and 231

Springville, AL. OneEighty campus (next to Burtons) 5770 US Hwy 11. 205-789-0017

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday**

Anniston, AL. Noble Street Downtown 256-237-5250

Argo, AL. Drive In Theater, call 205-467-3434 for times.

Decatur, AL. Steak n Shake through July. 6-9 pm. 205-686-0759

Gadsden, AL. Sonic, Hwy 278

Hoover, AL. 6-9pm Krispy Kreme

Munford, AL. Big Daddy's BBQ, Hwy 21 256-358-4888

Pinson, AL. North Park Church on Deerfoot Prkwy

Sylacauga, AL. WalMart, Hwy 280 256-378-6129

### **4<sup>th</sup> Saturday**

Fultondale, AL. Target, Fultondale Colonial Mall. exit 267 5-9 pm. 205-841-8311

Gadsden, AL. Ryan's Family Steakhouse, call 256-492-2950

Rainbow City, AL. Charlie & Casey's Pit BBQ, 3225 Rainbow Dr. 256-492-2950.

## **From the Editor:**

VCE members have been to several rolling events in September and October. Billy and Russ attended the show up in Kingsport, TN. and several of our members went to Warner Robins for Vairs at the Fair. I've held the newsletter for a couple of weeks hoping pictures would be coming.

My rolling event was a trip back to NW Oklahoma for my high school homecoming. All my brothers and sisters were there as well as my parents. My mom had surgery the day before I got there, but she was well enough for visitors, so that was good too.

It was my hope that both my car and my dad's Model A could be in the parade, but try as we might, my brother and I couldn't get it to stay running. It would start, then die. He called yesterday and told me he found a bug in the gas line that was evidently choking off the fuel.

Parade day started off chilly, 26 degrees, but warmed quickly up to 40 at parade time. That and a 30 mph wind out of the northeast made for a brisk ride in the convertible. My cousin's 6 year old granddaughter was my official candy thrower, even though she couldn't see above the top of the door. There were 15 parade entries with mine being the only 'classic' car.

The drive was about 2000 miles round trip and went without too much excitement. The cold weather took out my battery, which waited until I'd said my goodbyes and was ready to leave. I had to get a jump to get out of the driveway! Picked up a new battery about 40 miles down the road in Woodward, OK and off I went. Also on the way home, about 100 miles east of Oklahoma City my speedometer cable broke. Other than that I've noticed two new oil leaks that need investigation, and my rear is sore from all that sitting in the car.

On another note, I'm putting in my notice as newsletter editor. The December issue will be my last. I've done the newsletter for over 4 years now and I believe it's time for someone else to take over and breathe some new life in our publication. It's been fun, and I've learned a lot about our cars and the industry from the research done. I hope I have put out an interesting and entertaining newsletter for our members, other clubs and individuals that receive it month to month. Please consider taking over this position at our club elections in December.

Take care, drive safe and GET THAT CORVAIR OUT THERE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

- John -



*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: Richard Stolzmann  
205/467-6444*

*Vice President: Pete Wood  
205/956-6832*

*Secretary: Russ Thuleen  
205/678-7979*

*Newsletter: John Cleveland  
205/834-3120*

*Treasurer: Joe Doughty  
205/995-0131*

*Hospitality: Harold Hartline*

*Arrangements: Judi Cannon*

*Web: <http://www.corvair.org/chapters/chapter352/>*



*John's Corvair parked in front of the family farm house in NW Oklahoma.*

**Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts**  
147 Crossbrook Dr.  
Chelsea, AL. 35043



# THE OIL DROP

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE VULCAN CORVAIR ENTHUSIASTS Vol 33, No 11

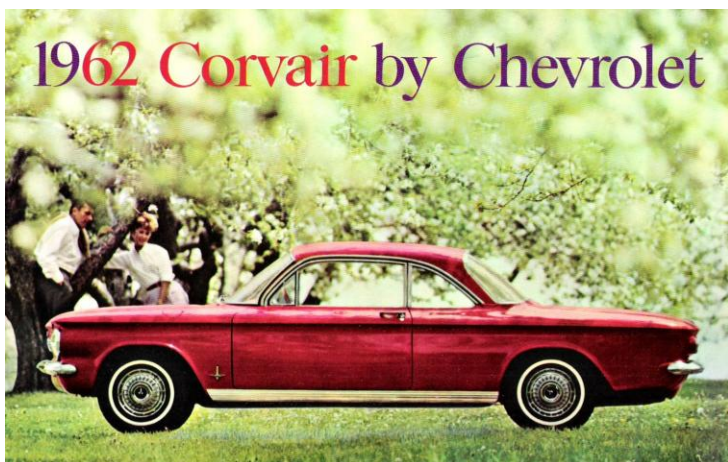
*November 2012*



## THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN:

Well let me try again, the internet keeps on going down. We had eighteen people at the October 19th meeting. We had some visitors, Larry Goosbly, George Miljus, and Russell Noble. We had an exceptional selection of food, especially the soup. Russ had a tech session on a tore up block and the 140 heads off the block and a cam shaft in three pieces from the same motor. By the time everyone reads this, I, Russ, and Billy should have gone to and come back from the Lineville car show. I hope nothing keeps me from attending. From the looks of it we will be having our Christmas party at Russ's house on the 21st of December, our usual meeting date.

REFLECTIONS FROM THE SEAT OF AN OLD TRACTOR. (Live a good and honorable life, then when you get older and think back, you'll enjoy it a second time.)



## Next Meeting:

Date: Friday, November 16, 2012

Time: 7:00 pm

Place: Fullness Christian Fellowship  
2575 Columbiana Rd. Vestavia Hills, AL.

Come have a covered dish dinner that can't beat!

Send Oil Drop submissions to:

[monzajohn@charter.net](mailto:monzajohn@charter.net)

Office – 205-325-7654

Cell – 205-834-3120

**NOTE: PLEASE SEND SUBMISSIONS NO LATER THAN THE 25<sup>TH</sup> OF THE MONTH.**

## Web Links 4 U!

Late model Corvair backup switches for less than \$60. I'll get one and report back!

<http://www.fiberfab.us/backupswitch.html>

Lineville Heritage Days, Nov. 3.

<http://claycochamber.com/lineville-alabama-heritage-day-celebration/>

This is on ebay now. Somebody buy it, quick!

[http://www.ebay.com/itm/Corvair-65-68-motor-NEW-T3-T4-TURBO-140-big-valve-heads-TRW-forged-pistons-/110939666663?pt=Race\\_Car\\_Parts&hash=item19d484f8e7&vxp=mtr#ht\\_198wt\\_1142](http://www.ebay.com/itm/Corvair-65-68-motor-NEW-T3-T4-TURBO-140-big-valve-heads-TRW-forged-pistons-/110939666663?pt=Race_Car_Parts&hash=item19d484f8e7&vxp=mtr#ht_198wt_1142)

John Fitch Obituary:

<http://blog.hemmings.com/index.php/2012/10/31/racing-legend-and-safety-pioneer-john-fitch-dies/>

## Upcoming Events!

**Corvair Affair in St. Augustine, FL hosted by Central FL. Corvair.** Nov. 2 through 4<sup>th</sup>. Fri. nite hospitality dinner and valve cover races. Sat. morning show and shine, afternoon autocross. Sun. morning rally followed by awards brunch. Host is Comfort Suites World Golf Village, 475 Commerce Lake Dr., St. Augustine, FL. 32095. Phone: 877-940-9501 or 904-940-9500. Ask for Corvair rate of \$74. Club contact: 386-265-1787, [sarahvair@cfl.rr.com](mailto:sarahvair@cfl.rr.com)

### **Lineville Car Show and Swap Meet and Heritage Days celebration.**

Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. (Car show on the 4<sup>th</sup>)  
Call Billy or Russ for details.

**Winter Retreat in Pigeon Forge, TN hosted by the East TN Corvair club.** Jan. 11-13. No planned events, just spending time with Corvair friends. Best Western Toni Inn, 3810 Parkway, Pigeon Forge, TN. 865-453-9058 and mention Corvair for \$44 + tax room.

**Corvair Lover's Holiday, Pensacola Beach, FL.** Feb. 15-16. Dinner Friday, Door prizes, 50/50, valve cover races, Ladies get together and more! Days Inn, Pensacola Beachfront.

## **Birthdays**

Chris Roth - Nov. 9  
Joe Doughty - Nov. 20  
Roy Dutton - Nov. 28

## **Anniversaries**

Russell & Debbie Noble - Nov. 29

## October VCE Meeting Minutes

The October VCE meeting was held on the 19th at Fullness Christian Fellowship. As per custom, our meeting was preceded by a delicious potluck dinner provided by the members in attendance.

George Miljus and Larry Gusby were present, which made a total of 17 members at the meeting. The Treasurer's Report from Joe Doughty reflected a bank balance of \$483.00.

All sorts of business was discussed:

Russ Thuleen gave a report on events attended by him and various other members of the club. First of there was Kingsport; followed by the parade and fair in Warner Robins, Georgia; a side trip up to Maggie Valley, Pell City and Lineville.

Russ also talked about his newest project - the short Rampside (goes by Booger) has been sand blasted and is now ready for paint. A short report was given about Buck and Jewel, and finally the annual VCE Christmas Party was discussed. Russ and Leslie will host this year's party at the Thuleen house on Saturday, December 22nd. Details to follow.

Billy Cannon reported on the website, Facebook page and his V-8 car conversion.

John Cleveland has stepped down as our Newsletter Editor and it will be handled by Billy Cannon.

Ed needs a top installer - please contact him with info if you know someone.

With VCE now being technology driven with emailed newsletters, a web page and social networking on Facebook; it was requested that at the next meeting a tech session be held on how to post comments and pictures on the Facebook site. Leslie and Jessica Steckler will be providing info and a hands-on demonstration.

Richard moved to adjourn.





## ROAD TRIP – MAGGIE VALLEY, N.C.

Submitted by Harold and Louise Hartline

Seven VCE members attended the “Vairs in the Valley” gathering in Maggie Valley, N.C. the second weekend in October. The group included Russ Thuleen, Bob and Wilma Siemens, Ed and Carol Keller and Harold and Louise Hartline.

Activities included a rally, parade, Friday night dinner, Saturday breakfast, car show, valve cover race and parts for sale.

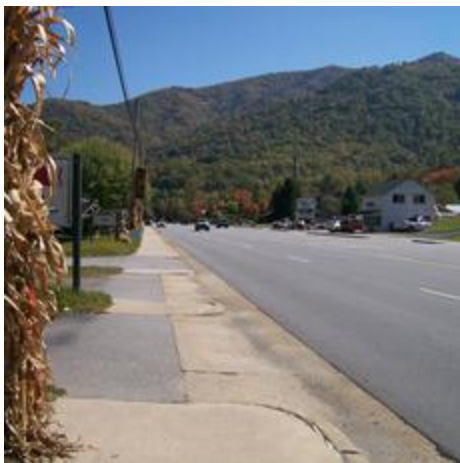
I understand that 51 cars were in the parade. About 10 more did not line up. A slow race was included in the activities. The object is to see who can take the most time to cover a given distance. It tests the engine and how well it is tuned.

The Appalachian Mountains are truly beautiful in October when the hardwood foliage reaches peak color, and the drive in and out provides many miles and overlooks to enjoy the view.

Maggie Valley offers an array of shops for browsing, and all sorts of mountain crafts. You can enjoy an apple fresh picked from a local mountainside orchard. An antique motorcycle museum houses a huge collection of old cycles and some cars. Essentially all were made in the U.S. All were either restored to operating condition or in the process of restoration. Many of the brands were unknown to me but the majority was made up of Harley Davidson and Indian brands. Sitting near the Museum entrance was a handmade race car. The body was a wing tank from an aircraft, the engine was a four cylinder in line air cooled Indian. A sign on the car said something close to “Thanks to the Pickers”. If you watch the Pickers you may have seen Mike and Frank purchase the belly tank car. How they found Maggie Valley Museum is another question.

For more information about Maggie Valley:

<http://maggievalley.org/index-welcome.html>



Main Street, Maggie Valley, N.C.

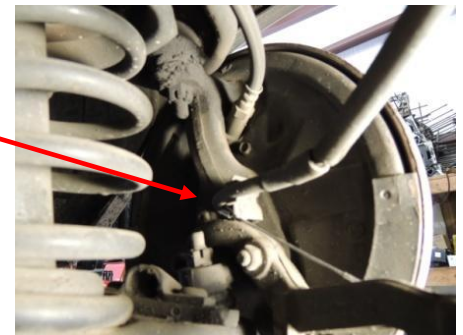


This has nothing to do with Maggie Valley, its just a cool picture of Chris and Joshua.

**From the Editor:** A strange thing happened to me on the way back from Oklahoma. My car quit going fast. On the freeway, secondary roads and sitting at stop lights it was the same old thing; 0 mph. What could I do to make my car go fast again? A new speedometer cable!

Late Model speedometer cable installation:

1. Is it really broke? Look under the dash and make sure it didn't come unscrewed.
2. If it looks good there, pull the front driver side wheel and remove the dust cap. The most likely place for a break is the bend coming into the hub. Gently pull on the inner cable. If it's broke it will pull right out.
3. Now that you know it's broke and you've got the new one there, plus the new grommet, let's get busy.
4. Unscrew the connection under the dash. Pry out the grommet at the firewall and cut it off. Fasten a piece of stiff wire, 5 – 6 ft. long to the end of the cable under the dash. Electrical tape works fine for this.
5. There's a hook behind the fender well that can be accessed through the hole where the gas tank filler tube passes through. Remove the cable from that hook.
6. Take the bracket loose that holds the cable to the front hub.



7. Take the bracket loose that holds the cable to in the wheel well.

8. Have a helper feed the cable with the wire attached from under the dash through the hole in the firewall. Make sure the free end of the attached wire stays under the dash. Once out, remove the other end of the wire from the old cable and attach it to the new cable at the under dash connection.

9. The cable follows the steering column down to the hub. **NOTE:** The cable passes **over** the brake line to be able to rest in the hook on the back side of the wheel well. You can see this when you look up the steering column from under the car. The wire should be following that path to assist you in pulling the new cable back over the brake line and up under the dash. Carefully pull the new cable up through the firewall and under the dash. Screw the connection to the speedometer and install the new grommet. Pull **ALL** the slack towards the front of the car.

10. Attach the cable to the hook on the back side of the wheel well.
11. Feed the end of the cable through the hub.



12. Attach the bracket in the wheel well. See picture at Step 7.
13. Attach the bracket at the front hub. See picture at Step 6.



14. Insert the end of the cable in the hole on the dust cap and gently tap the cap back on the hub. Use the raised edge of the cap to tap on,

Now my car really goes fast and that dreary old '0' feeling is gone. I've been 30, 50, even 75 mph! It's not accurate, but a check with my GPS shows its close enough. If you want absolute accuracy in your speedo and odometer, you'll need to visit a speedometer shop for a calibration. Look in the yellow pages.

Take care, drive safe and GET THAT CORVAIR OUT THERE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

- John -

**Contact Billy Cannon for details!!!!!!!**

## Rockford Gets Ready for Christmas

### Rockford Christmas Parade

The Rockford Christmas Parade will be held in Rockford on Friday, December 7, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. Open House for the merchants will be from 2:00 p.m. until after the parade.

The competitive floats are to be judged in the following categories:

1. Business and Industry Prize: Coosa Business Trophy
2. Non-Profit Groups (Churches, Clubs, Schools, etc.) Prize: First Place ..... \$100.00 Second Place ..... \$50.00 Third Place..... \$25.00
3. Best In Show

Prize: First Place.....Trophy Second Place.....Trophy

Enclosed is your parade entry form. Please return by December 5, 2012 to the address on the registration form. All vehicles, bands and walking groups must be registered with the parade committee.

The line up for all registered vehicles will be in the parking lot of the Rockford School. Line up is as follows:

Floats 5:00 p.m. Cars 5:30 p.m. Walkers 6:00 p.m.

It is important that the long floats line up no later than 5:00 p.m. before the area fills with children.

Due to potential danger the Police Department has asked that candy and other items not be thrown to the crowd. Please do not use a Santa in your float. The "Official" Santa will be at the end of the parade. Any child under the age of 10 driving a motorized vehicle (golf cart, motorcycle, etc.) must be accompanied by an adult.

We look forward to you joining us to make the 2012 parade a truly special event. With your cooperation, this will be a safe and enjoyable event for Coosa County. If you have any questions, please contact: Doris Culver at Town Hall at 256-377-4911.

#### **FOR SALE:**

Richard Cleveland has a bunch of parts for sale.

1 set of doors for 65-66 coupe/convertible

1 pair of LM coupe front door registers

1 pair of LM vent windows

2 sets of 64 Monza tail light lenses

1 set of aluminum custom wheels

Misc parts.

256-595-3448

#### **2012 VCE Christmas Party!!!**

**The Thuleen family has offered to host our Christmas party at their house this year. It's looking like it will be on Saturday, December 22 with either an early afternoon or early evening dinner. There will be more discussion at the November meeting. Stay tuned for email, facebook and web page updates!**



Harold Hartline's Rampside



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*Hospitality: Harold Hartline*

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*Web: <http://www.corvair.org/chapters/chapter352/>*



*Happy Thanksgiving!*

**Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts**  
147 Crossbrook Dr.  
Chelsea, AL. 35043



# THE OIL DROP

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE VULCAN CORVAIR ENTHUSIASTS Vol 33, No 12

DECEMBER 2012



## THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN:

It's almost the end of the year and I'll let you know that the next meeting and our Christmas party are on the same day. It will be at Russ Thuleen's house on Saturday the 22nd of December. It will start at twelve noon and according to Russ everything will be supplied except for desert, so plan on bringing a desert. I imagine he will have a map in the next newsletter. His address is (147 Crossbrook Drive Chelsea Al 35043. His phone number is 205-678-7979). Russ hinted that he and Billy Cannon would have a few tech sessions. News from the Lineville Car show, we had pretty nice weather with a few sprinkles mixed in, nothing to fret about. Attendance was down a little according to Russ though the weather was nice and warm, even with the few sprinkles. We had 12 Corvairs from various parts, eight from Vulcan Corvair. (REFLECTIONS FROM THE SEAT OF AN OLD TRACTOR; Lettin' the cat outta the bag is a whole lot easier than puttin' it back in.)

## Next Meeting:

Date: **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2012**

Time: **12:00 pm (NOON)**

Place: The Thuleen residence  
147 Crossbrook Drive, Chelsea, AL.

See details and directions on page 5!

Send Oil Drop submissions to:

[GTOchief@gmail.com](mailto:GTOchief@gmail.com).

Billy Cannon will be behind the editor's desk beginning in January.

**NOTE: PLEASE SEND SUBMISSIONS NO LATER THAN THE 25<sup>TH</sup> OF THE MONTH.**

## Web Links 4 U!

Here's some help finding something for the Corvair Nut who has everything

Corvair tee shirts, posters, coffee mugs, neck ties...

<http://www.zazzle.com/corvair+gifts>

Corvair Christmas tree ornaments

<http://www.cafepress.com/+corvair+ornaments>

Corvair Christmas cards

[http://www.cafepress.com/+corvair\\_christmas\\_cards\\_pk\\_of\\_20,484839\\_275](http://www.cafepress.com/+corvair_christmas_cards_pk_of_20,484839_275)

A search for 'Corvair' on amazon.com

[http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb\\_sb\\_noss\\_2?url=search-alias%3Daps&field-keywords=Corvair](http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_sb_noss_2?url=search-alias%3Daps&field-keywords=Corvair)



## Upcoming Events!

There are various Christmas parades such as Chelsea, Weogufka, etc. Contact Russ or Billy.

**Winter Retreat in Pigeon Forge, TN hosted by the East TN Corvair club.** Jan. 11-13. No planned events, just spending time with Corvair friends. Best Western Toni Inn, 3810 Parkway, Pigeon Forge, TN. 865-453-9058 and mention Corvair for \$44 + tax room.

**Corvair Lover's Holiday, Pensacola Beach, FL.** Feb. 15-16. Dinner Friday, Door prizes, 50/50, valve cover races, Ladies get together and more! Days Inn, Pensacola Beachfront.

### Springfest, Helen, GA.

April 19-20. Hospitality party, People's Choice, Valve Cover races, Autocross, Swap Meet, Awards Banquet and more.

Helendorph River Inn 706-878-2271 - \$138

(\$178 for riverfront for 2 night's min.)

Best Western 706-878.2111 - \$64, suites for \$84

Super 8 706-878-2191 - \$55

## November VCE Meeting Minutes

The November meeting of the VCE was held at Fullness Christian Fellowship on Friday, November 16, 2012. There were 20 adults and 1 child present for the delicious potluck dinner and meeting.

Treasurer's Report was given, and Joe Doughty reported a bank balance of \$475.00

Due to the unavailability to a WiFi connection, the tech session was canceled and placed on agenda for the Christmas meeting in December. Members Leslie and Jessica Steckler will have a tech session on posting comments / posts and pictures to the club FaceBook member page.

The club Christmas meeting will be held on Saturday, December 22nd starting at 12 noon. The event will be held at the Thuleen household, driving instructions will be included in the newsletter.

Billy Cannon reported on the Pell City car show to be held on Saturday, November 17th which will benefit Toys for Tots. He plans to attend and asked if anyone else was planning to attend and he would hold spots so members could all show their cars together. Report on a car show in Myrtle Beach this coming March 2013 was given - more information will be forthcoming.

Report on the Lineville car show was given. There was great support and showing from the VCE membership! There were 10 member cars at this event.

Louise Hartline reported that the absence of members Ed and Carol Keller was due to the passing of Carol's brother. Please remember their family in your prayers. It was also reported that the Seimens were not in attendance to Wilma's not feeling well. Report on Buck and Jewel Hinkle was given. Russ Thuleen asked the membership to give them a call or visit.

Billy Cannon will assume the Oil Spot editor position in January 2013. Starting at that time the email address for all newsletter submissions will be [GTOchief@gmail.com](mailto:GTOchief@gmail.com).

Clyde motioned for adjournment. It was seconded and passed unanimously by the membership.



## Birthdays

Carol Keller - Dec. 18

Richard Cleveland - Dec. 20

Russ Thuleen - Dec. 20

## Anniversaries

Bob & Wilma Siemens - Dec. 17



# 2012 VCE Christmas Party!!!

The Thuleen family has offered to host our Christmas party at their house this year.  
Saturday, December 22 beginning at noon.  
Bring a dessert

The address is:  
147 Crossbrook Drive, Chelsea, Alabama

For directions:  
<http://mapq.st/10HIVLs>

## **LATE MODEL BACKUP SWITCH – J. Cleveland**

Last month in the web links I found a site that sold late model backup switches. While I'm not an expert on the issues surrounding the stock ones, the biggest issue to me is the difficulty of removing the connector without pulling the pins and Bakelite top out of the stock switch. This could be caused by the exposure to the elements where the switch is mounted.

The FiberFab company's web site does not list the backup switch on its page, but the link below will take you to it. Some of you may remember that FiberFab purchased the rights to the Valkyrie line of kit cars. I called the phone number listed on the web site to place my order.

The switch I got is a more modern type that uses a ball bearing to activate the switch instead of the pin in the old one. It also has a weather tight sealed connector, which should eliminate corrosion issues. The price was less than \$60. I purchased one and with shipping the total cost was \$65, payable by PayPal.

For my money the site said I'd receive:

- 1 – Simple step by step instructions
- 2 – The factory fabricated 10 amp switch
- 3 – Factory modified watertight seal
- 4 – Simple two wire circuit design
- 5 – Complete hardware

What I got was the switch with the new watertight connector and a packing slip. Since the original switch is a 'simple two wire circuit design' I'm not real sure what improvements they made. There's not much you can do with two wires! The connector came with a two wire pigtail about 6 inches long to connect to the existing wiring. One of the pins wouldn't seat in the connector so I dabbed some epoxy in the back of the socket to hold it in.

Since it is a simple switch, polarity is not an issue. Installation consisted of removing the old connector and switch, cleaning up the metal seal ring and installing it with the new switch. I stripped the tape covering the existing wiring back about a foot to make the splice.



I slipped heat shrink tubing on the wire ends and then made solder connections on both wires. The heat shrink was then slipped over the bare wires and molded in to place with the heat of the soldering iron. All this was covered with two layers of electrical tape and one layer of rubber tape for protection from the elements.

The switch has been very professionally done and the new connector is far better than GM's original design. My received my order in less than 5 days.

<http://www.fiberfab.us/backupswitch.html>



Old connector with wiring exposed

Corvair Damper Door modification

J. Cleveland

While skimming through the tech guides a few months ago I ran across an article about removing the clips that hold the thermostat rods to the damper doors and replacing them with cotter keys. It seemed like a good idea to me as it is very difficult for me to get the swivel lined up with the clip and the hole in the damper door. The last time I put my lower shrouds back on I ruined one of my thermostats from the repeated pulling with my pliers and the consequent slipping off. As most of you know, replacing a thermostat is a pricy proposition.



To make the modification remove the clip and reinstall the swivel into the hole on the damper door. Make a mark on the swivel as shown in the picture at left. I added a washer. This will show how much room you have to drill the hole for the cotter key.

Count the turns it takes to remove the swivel so you don't lose your damper door adjustment. Be careful the rod doesn't unscrew from the thermostat.

I filed a small flat place for the drill bit so it would start true in the center of the swivel. The picture at the right shows the swivel with the hole drilled.





center of the swivel. The picture at the right shows the swivel Reinstall the swivel on the rod the same number of turns as when you removed it. Slip the swivel into the hole on the damper door.

Put the washer on the swivel pin and insert the cotter key into the hole. I was able to bend the key with long nose pliers.

It used to take me over an hour to get the swivels installed with the clips. Now I can do both sides in about 15 minutes.

Here's a picture of the swivel drilled with the cotter key.

From the Editor: This will be my last issue as editor of the Oil Drop. It's been a lot of fun, and I've learned a lot, but it's time to hand over the reins. Billy Cannon will be our new editor starting in January. Please support him in his efforts. This is the club's newsletter and our membership should be involved in its content.

Thanks to all of you for your patience and encouragement. I hope you have enjoyed my efforts and maybe learned something along the way.

*Take care and GET THAT CORVAIR OUT THERE !!!!!!!!!*

## **Driving Directions to the Christmas party at the Thuleens!**

**Use this link:** [Click here: Driving Directions from 1904 1st Ave N, Birmingham, Alabama 35203 to 147 Crossbrook Dr, Chelsea, Alabama 35043 | M](#)

**OR**

**Type this address in your GPS:** [147 Crossbrook Dr., Chelsea, AL 35043](#)

**OR**

**Try these directions. It's up to you to get to I-459/Hwy 280.**

**At Hwy 280 go south about 10 miles. When you get to Chelsea, turn right on CR 47. (There's a McDonald's and Taco Bell on the left side of the road if you are heading south).**

**Go about ½ mile and turn right on to CR 39.**

**Go about 6 miles and turn left on to CR 69.**

**Go about 0.6 miles and turn left on Crossbrook Drive.**

**Go about 0.4 miles and Russ house is on the right. Look for the sign.**



*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: Richard Stolzmann  
205/467-6444*

*Vice President: Pete Wood  
205/956-6832*

*Secretary: Russ Thuleen  
205/678-7979*

*Newsletter: Billy Cannon*

*Treasurer: Joe Doughty  
205/995-0131*

*Hospitality: Harold Hartline*

*Arrangements: Judi Cannon*

*Web: <http://www.corvair.org/chapters/chapter352/>*



### **Isaiah 11:10**

<sup>10</sup> In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his resting place will be glorious.

*Have a Corvair Christmas!*

**Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts**  
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