

# The Denvair News

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## Sometimes you just get lucky

I have been requesting for months that our club members document some of their Corvair activities, and share them with the rest of the club. We have members starting projects, completing projects. We have folks taking trips with their cars, visiting car shows or car museums. I've heard back from just a few. So many stories lost. However while I was musing about this, I remembered I took an interesting trip this last spring. And on that trip I visited a museum that I'll bet nobody has ever heard of, in a place likely no one has heard of.

The trip was a river cruise in Germany and the place was the town of Speyer. Speyer was one of the tour stops and while we were there I heard there was a Museum of Technology located in the town. On a free afternoon a friend and I wandered over. Housed in an old aircraft hanger the museum opened in 1991. I was impressed. Somewhat like Forney's but on a much larger scale. On the way over we spotted a Boeing 747 perched on a pedestal some 50 feet in the air. Below it was a bevy of 4 fighter planes, mostly American from the fifties and sixties; F86, F104, F101, F4. On the inside of the main building were several large locomotives complete with train cars. The space annex housed a huge Soviet spacecraft that looked so much like the American Space shuttle that I had to blink. Along side was a replica of the Apollo Lunar lander.

Continued on page 2

## Passing the Fan Belt

*Eric Schakel*

When Ed Halpin raised his hand to volunteer for the RMC President position at the July 6 meeting, I felt extreme relief tinged with a pang of regret.

I was relieved because several months had passed since I announced my retirement from the Prez slot, and the opening was beginning to get a little stale. To have a veteran Corvair hand like Ed step up assures me that RMC will go forward in good order, particularly with Mike Piper looking over his shoulder from the VP position.

The regret part is more nebulous, stretching back to a chapter meeting many years ago when I raised my hand to take on the Denvair News Editor position. That role was about as much fun as a technically-oriented English/journalism guy could have. It indirectly led to the 2011 CORSA Convention, where the Denvair News won Best Newsletter. A double!

Chairing **Corvairs With Altitude** was the most satisfying hobby thing I can imagine, and I have a very vivid imagination! A bunch of volunteers from all sorts of backgrounds put aside personal issues, medical problems, fear of the unknown, and threw one of the finest parties in all Corvairdom. It was a great honor and privilege to serve as the coordinator.

And when it was over, a lot of us had evolved. We were no longer just fellow Corvair club members, we were Friends. And in the years since 2011 (can it

Continued on page 3

Outside in the open courtyard was a German submarine. No, not of WWII U-boat fame but one that was retired in the sixties.

I believe the real jewels were the automobiles. Scattered through out were a several prewar German cars, a Sunbeam racing car (yes, Sunbeam) from the twenties, a 1960 Corvette, a late sixties Austin Healey 3000, an XKE, a twenties Blower Bentley and even a 1956 Cadillac. In a corner was a 1956 Citroen Traction Avant. This was a compact 4 seater developed in the thirties; uni-body frame, 4 wheel independent suspension, front wheel drive. It could be called a forerunner if anyone had paid attention. My friend and I wandered around for about 3 hours that afternoon. It was quite an unexpected treat. A bit of an escape from the sundry tours of the churches and castles that dot the countryside over there. There was nothing there that would draw crowds of tourists to this destination but it was fun to see while we were there. But alas, there were no Corvairs displayed there. And this would have been a perfect venue for our unique and forward thinking car. Well, maybe someday.



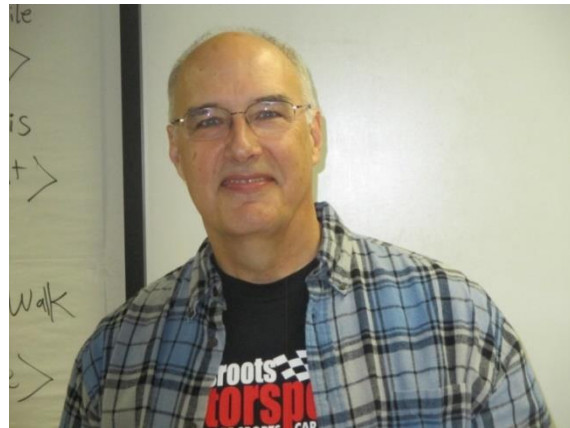
## August Dues

The Dues due list reflects the local club dues. CORSA notifies the member when national dues are due. John Dinsdale requests that you pay the local club dues to him and pay the national dues to CORSA by check or online. If your name appears on the overdue list and your dues are not paid by the following month you will be dropped from the roster.

<b>Overdue</b>	<b>Dusty Dodge</b> <b>Jeff Golden</b> <b>Jim Depres</b>
<b>June</b>	<b>Bud Duncan</b> <b>Jon Whiteley</b>
<b>July</b>	<b>Ed Halpin</b> <b>Joan Wilshire</b> <b>Ray Klomp</b>
<b>August</b>	<b>Eric Schakel</b> <b>Jim Reich</b> <b>Howard Steward</b>
<b>September</b>	<b>Bob Thiessen</b> <b>Laura Wilshire</b> <b>Bruce Parizek</b> <b>Jim Reich</b>

really have been that long ago?), the RMC meetings have been much more than Corvair enthusiast gatherings because of it. It was natural to step for me into the President role when John Dawson whacked himself with the yard equipment. Serving as Master of Ceremony for the monthly meetings has been great, much like hanging out with family. The good side of the family, at that.

Thanks to you all for allowing me to drive the Corvair club. Ed will bring a different focus and a new energy to RMC, and I'm confident the good times will continue to roll. After all, life is more fun in a Corvair...



Thanks Eric, for your time and effort.



### REAR-ENGINE SPECIALISTS

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# I have Fun Everyday

by Steve Goodman

Every so often I hear the comment "No one drives a Corvair everyday these days". I bristle when I hear those words. Yes most do not use one everyday BUT I STILL DO! All I own is Corvair or Corvair powered and have since the 60s except I do have an old Jeep for deep snow days. In fact my work car sits outside so no matter how cold/iced glass etc I clear the car off, the heater works so well I turn the blower off after warmed/defrosted and drive the 12 miles to the shop.

So I get to enjoy driving to the shop in a Corvair which brings all kinds of that 'fun' above. Plus drivers coming at me wave/thumbs up and at traffic lights folks will ask what year etc. Many times the comments about how their family had Corvairs in the past are made. In parking lots/service stations the comments are the same. I ask if the family lived here in Denver and if they reply "yes" I ask if they remember the shop on Morrison Rd. Often they say "yes" and I tell them that was me. Sometimes they say they were pretty young and don't remember where dad took the car too. Thanks for making me feel old!! I always ask for family names and luckily I remember almost every name and cars connected with the shop. When I describe the car the family owned in 1975 they are impressed that I remember the family. I always hand them a fresh business card and invite them and family members to the shop for a visit.

If out of the area I continue to press for location and names. Being a CORSA member since it began and attending many of the conventions through the earlier years I came into contact with lots of owners and sometimes a name rings a bell.

One of the comments made by many who I visit with say they don't see Corvairs on the road anymore. I answer that there are many still around but folks just use them on weekends and nice weather. I tell them about both CORSA and our local club here and Colorado Springs and quickly throw numbers such as 50 Corvairs and over 100 people drove their Corvairs to Crested Butte this year and name the states involved. That helps convince them the Corvairs aren't collecting dust in a garage.

Invariably the conversation will turn to Nader. There are many Corvair owners who immediately get their back up when Ralphie is mentioned BUT I have a different approach. I skirt Nader quickly and say there are other reasons the Corvair failed. I talk about the introduction of the Mustang with V8 power in 1964. I talk about the differences in advertising between Mustang and Corvair.

If I still have their attention I also say the emissions of the early 80s would have spelled the end of the aircooled engine anyway just as the 911 became a watercooled engine.

My fun continues when someone will pop into the shop and show me what they just found and it turns out to be something from years past. I enjoy being able to fill in a little history of their new toy and many times can get former owner and new owner together. Just last week that happened. New owner of the Manta Mirage that Harlan Colburn Sr and Jr built before the 1981 convention walked in. Harlan had lost track of the car in the mid 80s and now it is back in Denver. I even dug out my spare copy of the 1981 COMMUNIQUE showing the Manta autoxing at CDR and showed to the new owner. That night in a restaurant parking lot I answered more questions about my car. On Wednesday evenings at Wendy's Larry Yoder and Dale Nielsen and myself have 3 Corvairs parked together and comments are always made about them. Saturdays at lunch 'the Corvair guys' attract much attention and comments about our cars.

THANKS TO ED COLE I HAVE FUN EVERYDAY IN MY CORVAIR

Some photos from the Tri-State that didn't make it in last month's newsletter



Mark Welt Hard luck Award



Jean Olwine 2<sup>nd</sup> Early Closed



Dave Olwine Distance award



Nick Shumaker 1<sup>st</sup> Early Open



Steve Goodman Specialty Car



Dale Nielsen Boydston Award

## News You can Use August 2018

**Friday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>**, Rocky Mountain Corsa club meeting at John Elway Chevrolet, 6200 South Broadway, in Englewood Colorado. Starting at 1900hrs. After meeting program will be sell/swap time. Magazines/small parts/ladies crafts, anything that can be carried up the stairs.

**Saturday, August 4<sup>th</sup>**, Rocky Mountain Air and Ground Festival. Cars and Planes at the Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport in Broomfield. 9:00AM to 4:00PM

**Sunday, August 12<sup>th</sup>**: The club has made reservations for the summer Dale Wilshire Memorial Picnic at Bear Creek Lake Park in Lakewood. C-470 and Morrison Rd. Begins at 1100hrs. Picnic details will be discussed at July and Aug meetings. Keep this date open. Basically burgers, hot dogs and drinks are provided but plan to bring a dish to share.

**Saturday, August 18<sup>th</sup>**: Holy Rollers Charity Car Show in Broomfield. Finally, a car show for the northern folk. It will be held at South Midway park. The inaugural show hosted over 120 cars, hundreds of spectators, and raised nearly \$6000 for the Society of St. Vincent de Pau. See [www.holyrollerscarshow.com](http://www.holyrollerscarshow.com) for more information.

**Fri., Sat. Sun, Sept. 14, 15, 16**, Fort Morgan, CO. Fall Harvest Car Show. A fun event, not all that far a drive up I76. Info online at [www.fallhavestcarshow.org](http://www.fallhavestcarshow.org).

**Saturday, Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup>**, PPCC Fall Aspen Tour. This year's drive will be the drive up to Alma, Colorado with lunch at the South Side Saloon. RMC usually joins the Pikes Peak club for this event. Meeting location to be announced.

Plans are in the works for a Loveland area tech session in early October. Watch for details.



**Rocky Mountain Corsa** (RMC) has been a chartered chapter of the Corvair Society of America (CORSA) since October 1974, and is dedicated to the preservation and enjoyment of Corvair automobiles.

**The Denvair News** is a monthly publication for members and affiliates of Rocky Mountain Corsa. The Denvair News is now available as a PDF by request to the Editor.

**Editorial Contributions** We encourage your participation! Please forward stories, ideas, jokes, recipes, and/or photos to the Editor. Content must be received by the 15th of the month prior to the desired publication month. Electronic files are *mucho* preferred.

**Classified Ads** Individual RMC member ads are free. Classified ads are limited to 25 words, and may include a photo. All ads will run for three issues. Non-members may advertise for \$10.00. Please submit ads to the Editor, with payment due in advance to the Treasurer. Please make checks out to RMC.

**Business Advertising** Commercial advertisers are welcome. The following per-issue rates apply:

Business card size – \$2.50

¼ page – \$5.00

½ page – \$10.00

Full page – \$20.00

### **RMC Merchandise**

Past event t-shirts, RMC name badges and other merchandise are available. Please contact Earl Nelson for a current list of goodies.

### **RMC Mailing Address**

Correspondence, ads, & articles may be snail-mailed to:

RMC

PO Box 27058

Lakewood, CO 80227-0058

**Web Site:** [www.rockymountaincorsa.org](http://www.rockymountaincorsa.org)

### **Membership & Dues**

Rocky Mountain Corsa annual dues are \$25.00, Corvair Society of America (CORSA) annual dues are \$45.00, which includes a subscription to the Corsa Communique, an award-winning monthly magazine. Combined dues are \$70.00 annually. Checks should be payable to RMC, mailed to: *RMC, c/o John Dinsdale, 3240 Billings St., Aurora, CO 80011-2231*

### **Monthly Meeting**

RMC holds meetings the 1st Friday of each month at our host dealership, Elway Chevrolet, 5200 South Broadway in Englewood. Join us at 7:00 PM in the upstairs meeting room.

### **RMC Officers**

President: Ed Halpin	<a href="mailto:prez@rockymountaincorsa.org">prez@rockymountaincorsa.org</a>	(303) 619-0080
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Treasurer: John Dinsdale	<a href="mailto:treas@rockymountaincorsa.org">treas@rockymountaincorsa.org</a>	(303) 341-2327
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Webmaster: Dale Nielsen	<a href="mailto:webmaster@rockymountaincorsa.org">webmaster@rockymountaincorsa.org</a>	(303) 601-8544

# Rocky Mountain Corsa Meeting Minutes

The July 2018 meeting of RMC was held 7/6/18 and was called to order by past president Eric Schakel at 1910hrs.

Guests were Craig and Jan Nicol from Idaho.

Member Charles Kirmuss was also introduced due to a lengthy absence from the meetings.

Minutes were approved.

Treasurer John Dinsdale stated money total \$5728.84. Income and expenditures from Tri-State are still in motion.

## OLD BUSINESS:

Started with a call for President and VP. Ed Halpin volunteered to be President and Mike Piper followed for VP. By acclamation both were accepted to the positions.

Many kudos for work performed during the Tri-state were offered.

Rick Beets and son Charley/Tony and Diane Lawlor for the use of their truck and trailer and for their help with various money transactions/PPCC members who helped with registration. Also positive feedback was offered to the city of Crested Butte and the police department for parking and traffic control during the Sat morning street show. Allen Amrine was thanked for his help too.

Several talked about using the ski lift and John Dinsdale and Jimmy Riley both admitted to having so much energy they mountain biked during the weekend.

Rick Beets offered leftovers from the hospitality suite to the Dale Wilshire memorial picnic on August 12. Eric Schakel gave an overview of trip back east/stopping at Corvair Museum and following Route 66.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

CCCC show/swap meet at Jeffco Airport

Picnic on August 12 at Bear Creek Lake Park. Details in DENVAIRNEWS OR THE RMC-LIST AND AUGUST 3 meeting

Craig Nicol showed a fuse block/harness repair he makes for many cars and he has one for each of the Corvair years. There are additional terminals for electric pump and relays if needed. Craig also showed his replacement reflector for rear of FC models.

## BREAKTIME

After the break (furnished by Linda and Bud Duncan. THANK YOU!)

Jonni Berkman asked for rally wheel centers for her new wheels. A pair was offered by Steve Goodman.

Editor Paul Seyforth made a plea for news stories for the DENVAIR NEWS

50/50 drawing was \$127.00 split in half. Winner was Jimmy or Caron Riley

Meeting adjourned at 2145hrs.

Respectfully submitted by Steve Goodman for the recording secretary Rob Brereton