
The Denvair News

September 2024

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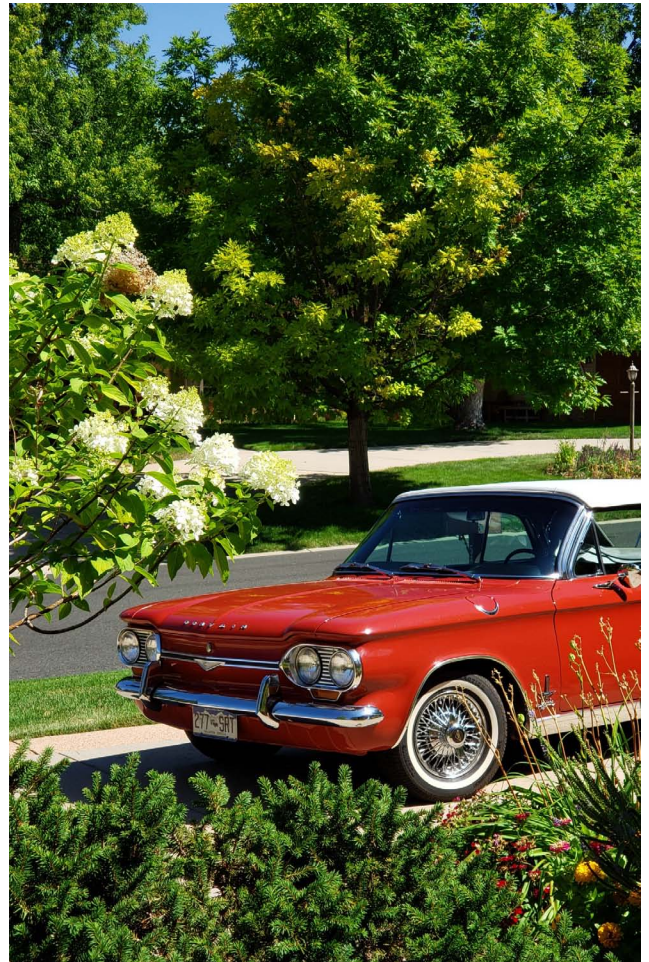
So, What About Car Shows?

- Mike Piper

I've been a somewhat fearful leader of both Rocky Mountain Corsa (RMC) and Pike's Peak Corvair Club (PPCC). Presidents I've been exposed to are John Dawson, Ed Halpin, Eric Schakel, Rick Beets (RMC, I think in that order), and John Green, I think Ed Halpin, and John Green again (PPCC in roughly that order). My observation has been that RMC does not favor car shows as much as group gatherings frequently involving post-event meals. Again, my impression is that PPCC favors car shows, mostly in the general vicinity of Colorado Springs that may or may not involve a get together and meal.

Recently, I went to a car show that featured 230 or so cars and only two Corvairs. It's unusual to have more than a small handful of Corvairs at any event unless it's Corvair-specific, like a Tri-State. I've been to many car shows per year, as far south as Pueblo and as far north as about 15 minutes from my house. We all have different motivations with any car event, and these are some of mine. I don't consider them right or wrong, and there's no implication of guilt as far as others attending or not. They're my opinions!

- Very generally, I find it interesting to attend shows with cars that may be somewhat famous, but that we never see "in the wild." There are also pre-WWII and 50's cars that my dad may have talked about, or we might or we might have
(continued on page 3)



This superb classic Corvair pic isn't remotely related to the Car Show article - it's Michael Brittan's red '64 Monza Spyder, a 55k mile 2-owner example with some awesome wire rims. The setting is one we'll soon miss, as the seasonal pumpkin spice marketing bombardment is already underway...



Welcome to the Abbreviated Denvair News! The Wilshire Picnic, our big August social event (and a pretty good Corvair car show, come to think of it...) isn't covered at all. Why? Because Dale Nielsen hogged all the good stuff, and absolutely knocked it over the fence with his presentation on www.rockymountaincorsa.org. I encourage you to check it out if you haven't already done so!

Dumpster Diving, Anyone?

You are cordially invited to a unique Corvair gathering at El Rancho Schakel on Sunday, September 22. The occasion will be our first ever **Swap 'n Dump Party**, where you're invited to bring a blanket or tarp and set up like a swap meet vendor on the asphalt area to see if you can lure other Corvair owners to your treasures. Trades may ensue, cash may change hands, and at the end of the afternoon you'll have the option of tossing any and all unwanted leftovers into a big dumpster (after making an appropriate donation to the Dumpster Fund!).

Of course, if you have broken parts, or reasonable hunks of household junk, you can go straight to the dumpster (see donation note above - dumpsters ain't cheap!). But there's always a potential market for good parts or tools, and there'll be shade where wiser humans (typically wives) can sit and shake their heads at the insanity. We'll provide a reasonable area of flat ground, a 10 yard dumpster, shade in the workshop for spectators, pulled pork BBQ, plus cool water & lemonade. Visitors should bring folding chairs, any preferred beverages, and potluck food items that go with the sandwich fixin's.

You're welcome to join in as spectators, participants, or anywhere in-between. Potential traders should remember to bring an ample stash of cash, predominantly in small bills for making purchases and change, along with Corvair-related treasures to be sold, exchanged, or scrapped. Because of the expense of having the dumpster standing by, we ask that you RSVP at least a week prior if you're planning to attend.

What: **Swap 'n Dump Party**

When: Sunday, September 22, 2024 - 10:00 am until we're plumb wore out

Where: 7082 Piute Drive, Sedalia, 80135. Google it, we're on the map

Applicable Items: Swap/Sell/Junk items (no 'Vair requirement for dumpster)

Other Stuff to Bring: Potluck fixin's to go with sloppy Joe BBQ, folding chairs, any specific refreshments. Desserts are always welcome.

PLEASE RSVP by 10/16/24 to: gearhead066@gmail.com, or text to 303 319-0788

**THIS SPACE LEFT BLANK
ON PURPOSE 'CAUSE THE
NEWSLETTER NEEDS TO
BE SENT OUT AND THE
EDITOR IS TIRED...**

Marcus Miller's sweet early 'vert.
Good to see it out on the grassy car
field at the 2024 Holy Rollers show!



owned when I was a kid. Typically, they were cheap to buy, could be worked on, and had some life left so my dad could make use of them for the family. I recall my dad wrenching on cars since I was about four. He could wring a lot of miles out of a worn-out car. Moving into the 60's, there are cars I remember; our first Corvair was a 1966, and I used to chew up malaise era cars with my '65 Corsa, on straight roads or better yet in corners. Some of these shows are free, some have entry fees.

- When Ed Halpin was president of whichever club, he often said we should get to car shows to show the marquis. In that spirit I attended events like the Rosemount Museum, Florence, Cripple Creek, and a Douglas County Chili cook-off. One thing about doing this you see many interesting cars and meet many interesting people. Rosemount is not convenient to me but it is interesting and they like us.

- A number of events are fundraisers for various causes. Examples are The Arapahoe Community College show for Ability Colorado (I also do a non-car related sporting clay shoot with these folks), the Castle Rock Cruise-In, Holy Rollers in Broomfield, the CCCC show at the Airport formerly known as Jeffco, and the car show at Rosie's Diner in Monument. Some of these have large numbers of cars, some only a few, sometimes a Corvair (me) or more, and the usual in-

teresting cast of cars and characters. Jerry Gerteisen, Marcus Miller and I often went to Holy Rollers together. We miss Jerry, and I was glad to see Marcus made it this year.

- There are many Cars and Coffee events, which are usually free and informal. Everybody is welcome but get there early. Same deal, often interesting cars and people. Often these are monthly, rain, snow, or shine, and there tend to be core groups you see frequently. Corvairs may vary from one to three present.

- I should also throw in that a lesser motivation for me is that since I have been a club president, or I'm one now, it seems like I should make the extra effort to support the members who bring their Corvairs. In general, you could find three or four events to attend every weekend during Spring/Summer/Fall, so some picking and choosing is certainly in order. We can't do everything, and we shouldn't suffer any guilt if we can't.

You'll meet many people with Corvair stories, some with interest, some pretty knowledgeable. I helped a couple of guys locate salvage yard parts, I've given mini clinics on fan belt tension and lectures on carburetor balancing. I've given folks info on where to find or sell a car. Sometimes the weather isn't great but there is usually something interesting to look at or talk about... As always, bring a chair and shade and these days drink plenty of water. Your mileage and interest may vary.

RMC President Mike Piper's red Corsa. It participates in many shows, and represents LM Corvairdom well!



Hey, RMC, this will almost
be in our neighborhood -
anybody up for a road trip?



**2025 CORSA INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
MAY 20-23, 2025 — SANTA MARIA, CA**

Hosted by Central Coast Corsa
Info: centralcoastcorsa.org
Email: mail@centralcoastcorsa.com



Participating Clubs:



Logo: CANO graphic design 562-882-5077

Rocky Mountain Corsa Official BS & Contacts

Rocky Mountain Corsa (RMC) has been a chartered chapter (#802) 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.

Editorial Contributions

We encourage your participation! Please forward stories, ideas, jokes, recipes, and/or photos to the Editor. Content must be received by the 20th of the month prior to the desired publication month. Electronic files are preferred, pictures are awesome, but please include descriptions!

Classified Ads

I don't recall RMC doing paid ads in this fine newsletter since the Reagan Administration. Should this section be updated or eliminated now that RMC has a well-maintained web site?

Business Advertising

Ditto Editor rant above - much the same applies.

RMC Mailing Address

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

RMC
PO Box 27058
Lakewood, CO 80227-0058

Membership & Dues

Rocky Mountain Corsa annual dues are \$25.00, due each year by February 28. Checks should be payable to RMC, mailed to **RMC, c/o John Dinsdale, 3240 Billings St., Aurora, CO 80011-2231**. Dues may also be paid online via PayPal at this link: www.rockymountaincorsa.org/dues

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 (above Parts Department).

RMC Officers & Appointees

President: Mike Piper

prez@rockymountaincorsa.org

Vice President: Ken Schiffner

veep@rockymountaincorsa.org

Secretary: Rob Brereton

sec@rockymountaincorsa.org

Treasurer: John Dinsdale

treas@rockymountaincorsa.org

Member At Large: Tony Lawler

m.a.l@rockymountaincorsa.org

Past President: Rick Beets

void@rockymountaincorsa.org

Activities Chair: **Mario Wibbens!**

activity@rockymountaincorsa.org

Auditor/Trustee: John Dawson

auditor@rockymountaincorsa.org

CCCC Rep: Rick Beets

cccc-rep@rockymountaincorsa.org

Historian: Steve Goodman

history@rockymountaincorsa.org

Membership Chair: Tony Lawler

membership@rockymountaincorsa.org

Newsletter Editor: Eric Schakel

news@rockymountaincorsa.org

Webmeister: Dale Nielsen

webmaster@rockymountaincorsa.org

RMC Corvair Happenings!

- Friday, September 6 — RMC Meeting, 7:00 pm at Elway Chevrolet
- Sunday, September 22 — Swap 'n Dump Party! - see details on Page ???
- Pretty short list, but there's a bunch of stuff pending, come to the meeting!



President's Letter, September 2024

Hi all!

It is possible we have entered a slightly calmer period, at least according to my calendar. We've had the Wilshire Picnic on August 18 (RMC mostly, family members included) and despite the Jeffco fire bans Eric's grill proved to be very much appreciated and we were able to pretty much keep up with the necessary cooking. My thanks to all who brought food and supplies and to Laura Wilshire's brother who served as the grill master allowing me to assist.

We're still having some hot weather but despite being pretty hot on Picnic Day, we had shade from the picnic shelter and a reasonable breeze. I did not happen to count the Corvairs but we had a good assortment and others provided pictures to Dale for the RMC web page. Kevin Shipman and his wife Robin have achieved the status of having a high number of breakdowns and trips to shoulder for a given event. They gave me solid competition for my distributor and fuel pump issues during the trip to-from the Glenwood Springs Tri-State in the red Corsa, and my older Daughter's breakdowns during the Las Vegas NM Tri-State travels in the white Monza.

I've lost track a little bit of events but I believe several of us (mostly PPCC) attended a car show at Rosie's Diner in Monument on July 28. August 3 was the Rocky Mountain Car Show and Swap Meet at Rocky Mountain Metro Airport (formerly Jeffco). It was as usual a hot day but we had a good Corvair turnout. We were scattered a bit... I noticed some drivability problems with the red car which I blamed on washing the engine the night before. That turned out to not be the problem. It was a 10-minute downhill drive home. August 10 was the Holy Rollers car show in Broomfield. Another hot day. Marcus Miller Joined me for that one. Still having drivability problems.

Back to the drivability issues which I was determined to solve before the Picnic. There might be a mild lesson learned here. I changed the spark plugs before washing

the engine with Simple Green and low pressure water. All six appeared to be a reasonable appearance and color, and were pretty much equal. There was a hint of an issue which is why I changed the spark plugs. 'd heard a clicking sound which might have been arcing in a spark plug wire which persisted after changing the spark plugs. I cleaned the inside of the distributor cap and cleaned the contacts. It might have been a little better. To shorten the story considerably, when I had the air cleaner off, I discovered the right primary carburetor accelerator pump was not working, no shot of fuel when stepping on the accelerator. I replaced both of the accelerator pumps. The reproduction distributor vacuum advance had failed. I replaced that. I also removed the individual spark plug wires, cleaned the dirt and oil off of the boots and the wires with brake cleaner (including the end of the plug wire boot) and applied dielectric grease inside each boot. Each step of the process made the problem better. When I was all done before the picnic the drivability problems were gone. I guess the point is that the annoying drivability problems might seem minor but might actually be related to an accumulation of several issues and you need to work through the systems to find them.

I'll skip the summary of upcoming events. There will be a couple of Cars and Coffee events, a show or two (fundraisers) and The PPCC fall drive is on September 21 to Cripple Creek with several landmarks on the agenda. That has been a pleasant drive in the past. The plan is to meet at Rudi's BBQ in Colorado Springs (on highway 24) and drive in a group if you wish. More to follow on that.

Again, I've managed to type a bunch of random and hopefully useful info but there appears to be less of it for a change. As always, I hope you all can stay cool and hydrated, enjoy the weather, avoid thunderstorms, enjoy pollen free flowers and shrubs and as always, be healthy and safe. I'll hope to see you all soon.

- Mike



Another GM classic from the 2024 Holy Rollers show, this mid-1970s 6-wheel FWD GMC Motor Coach would be a perfect accessory for towing your Corvair to shows as you see the USA with your Chevrolet!

Rocky Mountain Corsa Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: August 2, 2024 **Called to Order:** 7:00 pm
Location: John Elway Chevrolet, Englewood CO **# Present:** 18 on site, 2 on Zoom.

Guests, long distance, new members: Guest Dale Denman acquired '64 Monza convertible, not as solid as it was claimed. Runs but needs some work due to floor rust-through and top problems. Has a collection of parts with it. Looking to pass it on to a new owner.

Standard Business:

Minutes of last meeting: Minutes from July meeting were reviewed and approved. There was one correction, Tri-States in years ending in 6 are traditionally held in Montrose, not Gunnison.

Treasurer's Report: The end of June balance was \$6,572.51. The end of July balance was \$6,721.71. Treasurer's Report was approved.

Mailbag: No mail. Fall Harvest Car show flyer from last month is on the front table. Several other flyers were displayed as well.

Old Business:

- Snacks were provided by Paul Seyforth. Thanks!
- Membership: New rosters are available on the front table. Updates to RMC-list are pending, not getting a response on adds / drops. Compared to last year we are at about 60 now, about same as last year.
- Board Meetings will continue with the goal to move more of the detailed business out of club meetings to free time for more enjoyable activities as discussed below. Topics can be emailed to Mike. Current Board topics includes: Bylaw review, RMC list-server issues, updates to roster, Tri-State.
- Thanks, Eric, for a great newsletter. Please contribute your articles, with pictures.
- Paul reported that there is not a lot of current activity on Tri-State. The banquet facility is reserved, a park permit for car show on Main Street is complete. Days Inn is not accepting reservations right now as corporate policy doesn't accept reservations until 9 months = September. Need to update CORSA for promotion, review deadlines for CORSA Communique publication. Advise Chris Shades for his quarterly newsletter. In the past we also sent to Chapters west of Mississippi.
- Rick Beets gave the CCCC update. The Air and Car show is on August 3 (1st Sat). RSVP for 20 cars requested, \$10 each. Need volunteers to help direct traffic, 10 – 2, entry \$10/car paid at parking.
- As a CORSA chapter we are to encourage membership in CORSA. To do that we are getting a statement or article from CORSA on value proposition to share on website and newsletter. The task is still open.
- For the Fall Tour, PPCC will take lead to Victor. (Date unknown)
- There was discussion of having a newsletter article in memory of Tim Shortle. A line or two from each contributor was suggested.
- The Wilshire picnic at Bear Creek Lake Park was discussed, Sun Aug 18, 11am. See newsletter. Mike will buy hamburgers, brats, buns, charcoal, etc. Some Veggie Burgers, condiments. Rick has utensils and paper goods. Everyone else bring a favorite dish. Paul to send out an invite list including PPCC.
- Events discussion. Mario is putting in a calendar format as it helps him to organize. A list was created below.
 - Golden SuperCruise, tomorrow.
 - July 14 WeatherTek Cars and Coffee, also on Sun Aug 11. Boulder Turnpike south on Wadsworth.
 - Holy Rollers, 8/10.
 - The Wilshire picnic at Bear Creek Lake Park Sun Aug 18, 11am.
 - Flyer for show in Dacono 8/31, benefits 2 cancer patients. \$20, 9am. See front table
 - Swap 'n Dump party at Schakels 9/22.
 - 10/20 Jim Reich garage tour.
 - Other Ideas: Rambler Ranch, Broomfield Days, Yuma Museum, High Plains Race against Kids Cancer.

New Business:

- Snack signup: Mike Piper for Sept.
- Discussion was held on how to make meetings more engaging and enjoyable. Fun ideas, non-car focused activities, entertainment, tech sessions were mentioned. As noted, plan is to move detailed business to free time for other activities. Tech Sessions may be better additional activities at home garages due to limitations in meeting space.
- CNM's Greg Nelson's letter to RMC and PPCC presidents regarding the Tri-State was discussed. Mike shared the letter and a discussion was held but had not yet responded. Letter it relates to aging members and ability/willingness to travel long distances with Corvairs and work of planning an event in a new location. Leadership of 3 clubs will meet at 2025 Tri-State to discuss, may include dividing work across clubs, fixing a location and / or region, or changes in the planned activities.

Activities:

- August 3 (Sat) CCCC Air and Car Show
- August 18 (Sun) Wilshire picnic.
- September 6 (Fri) Monthly Meeting, 7pm, Elway Chevrolet

For Sale or Wanted, Recently Purchased, Projects

Steve: Shop is downsizing at the end Sept due to increased rent so south end of show will be vacated. Lots of material is moving to storage. Watch email, items on floor for up \$5 or so.

50/50 Raffle: \$30 Club, \$30 member, winner Paul Seyforth.

Meeting adjourned 8:43 Respectfully by Rob Brereton

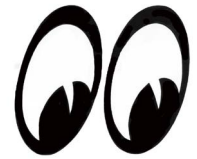


Or how about this little Holy Roller show gem for towing a Corvair, or just picking up parts from Steve's down-sizing shop? Nice dagmars!

If you know what this is, you're older than the editor, or someone in your family hauled you around in one as a wee infant.

Editorial Ramblings

- Eric Schakel



You Ever Try To Do A Newsletter?

I'm tired. It's been a six-month-long haul to get my shoulder back together, and then the doc finds that my thyroid (that's a higher-level 'roid, at least) is fouling up my P-Too-A-Terry or some such medical mayhem. So they do some radioactive stuff, then tell me to take some drug evidently made by complaining prostitutes.

Anyway the whore moans are having a positive effect, I think, which is good, because I really want to keep racing for a few more years before I have to give up and start participating in car shows (that's intended as humor - I like car shows. For the first 45 - 60 minutes, at least).

The racing has been sidelined by these medical woes this year, and it's given me time to look back. Yenko Stinger YS-066 and I have been vintage road racing for 23 years, if you take 2024 out of the count. There are 58 race weekend events in the multiple logbooks, as well as a few undocumented events and test days. Six engines

have been built up and beat up in that process, and I'm not entirely sure about the one in it at the moment...

The most significant change made to the car during the near-quarter-century of racing has been the design, fabrication, and installation of 4-wheel disk brakes. That conversion absolutely transformed the car, and has literally and figuratively made the brake system effective and bullet-proof.

With any luck, 2025 will be the transition year when YS-066 can return to street duty, with racing responsibilities falling on the project that started the whiplash of shoulder problems and moans. You'll have to suffer through the finishing and sorting out of Schako Ringer #001 in these pages.

And what does all of this have to do with the title of this editorial? Newsletter filler, baby! It's a key component of the task, and you're welcome.

Viva La Vair!