

## Ok, Now this is a little different for a front page article but I thought we would start this year off with a little Humor. I asked on the Corvair Center Forum for the top 10 ideas why to Join Corsa and here is one Reply I got . Thanks to Bording Ostergaard from the Western Canada Corsa Club.

[*] You haven't a clue about what's going on in life and it just seems like the right car
[*] The compact rear-engine design allows you to sleep comfortably on the front floor
[*] On rainy days you get your feet cleaned for free
[*] The turbo-charged models work great for wide-area mosquito control
[*] You want that rebel image but can't afford a Harley
[*] Most chicks think you're really trying to say "Corvette"["] Your in-laws all drive Mustangs
[*] The continuous excitement of always waiting to flip!
[*] Once they're broken in they never need an oil change - you just keep adding more
[*] You're always getting to meet the country's top experts in auto engineering and design
[*] Driving with the heater on is a real gas
[*] With the fold-down rear seat option you can carry at least 8 goats
[*] It makes a political statement about your commitment to conservation
[*] With the engine in the rear, what's protecting you in a crash?
[*] The cigarette lighter is interchangeable with most other GM models
[*] The trunk is exceptionally water tight and will hold at least 250 beers plus crushed ice.
[*] Most Corvairs come with spare change under the rear seat
[*] You can self-serve fill your car with gas without ever having to leave the driver's seat
[*] Ralph Nader sends you a Christmas card every year apologizing for being wrong
[*] It gives you something to talk about with Americans
[*] The engine fan will suck up shop towels better than a vacuum cleaner!
[*] Even the best of friends will try to deny knowing you
[*] Your spouse accepts it as the lesser of many alternate evils
[*] You get to meet people that won't go away for a lifetime .... of trying.
[*] When you flick things out the window they often come back in via the heater
[*] Being low to the ground, it's not so far for passengers to fall when getting home on Saturday nights
[*] In the right light and at the right angle they look just like a Fiat, a Scoda, a Yugo, a Mini...
[*] You can blame it on your drug-crazed days from the 60's
[*] It gives you something to look for in really boring movies
And the number one reason to own a Corvair.....
(drum roll please)
[*] The AMC car clubs stop asking you to join.

# Birthdays Happy Birthday!! <br> April Patty Prudden 

# March 2nd Tim Verthein <br> 16th Ryan Yax 



## November Meeting Agenda

Head of the Lakes Corvair club Agenda
Tuesday, Nov. 25, 2008
Perkins East
Dinner 6:00 Meeting 7:00
Call to order at $\qquad$
Attendance -

- any new member / guests

Secretary's Report - Kathy Thompson
Treasurer's Report - Jim Linder
Oct 50/50 \$2.00 to Pat Murphy $\$ 8.00$ to club
Committee Reports

- Corvair Cavalry /Ron

Pete's.... Parts Order
News Letter - Ron Thompson
-Want ads \& Articles
Merchandise orders -
Old Business

- Officer hand book -
- pictures by Aerial bridge Photo shop creation
- Christmas Party January 11, 1pm at Country Lanes Bowling

New Business

- World of Wheels
- Elections
- Detroit Homecoming (Peter)

National convention
Tech Talk
Any Other New Business -
Adjournment at $\qquad$

Next Committee Meeting preceding the Club meeting at 6:00 pm March 3rd at Perkins
Next Head of the Lakes Corvair Club Meeting March, 32009 7:00 pm Perkins London Rd.

## Vendor List

## Corvair Underground

503-434-1648
www.corvairunderground.com
The Source Inc.
source@andc.com
858-259-3843
http://www.thesourceparts.com
Larry's Corvair Parts
K6RO@Earthlink.net
310-070-9851
www.larryscorvair.com

California Corvairs
CACorvairs@aol.com
323 223-2775
http://www.californiacorvairparts.com
Dale Manufacturing
3425 Fairhaven Ave N.E.
Salem, Oregon 97303
503-364-8685
WWW.DaleMfg.com
Clarks Corvair Parts
400 Mohawk Trail
Shelburne Falls, Mass 01370
423-625-9776
WWW.corvair.com


## The Newsletter needs your help!!

## Cavalry Update

I really enjoy doing the newsletter but it's getting harder to fill it. We have quite a few members that don't attend meeting or gatherings. So what I am asking is for all members to sit down and write up a story about you and your Corvairs. How did you get into Corvairs? What work have you done to it? Tell us your best Corvair story. There has to be some stories out there. Pictures of your Corvairs are always welcome. Maybe you don't have a camera, well if your close, give me a call and l'll come over and take some pictures. l'll be asking all the officers to write up a small article about themselves also. Maybe if we all do this it will spark some interest. Bob Saunders had an idea that maybe this next summer we should all get together and drive our Corvairs to a members house for a visit. What would be nicer than to look out and see a flock of Corvairs pull up in front of your house? I like the idea. If they won't come to us lets go to them!! What do you think? Sounds like a plan to me. Maybe you have an idea of something you'd like to see in the newsletter. Just let me know and l'll get it in. Ron Thompson

Well winter has set in and not much going on. Jason and myself finished up on doing a clutch job on Art Bringe's 64. Still on the list is to give Ed's 64 coupe a tune up this spring. It's looking nice Ed!!! Bob Saunders has a list of stuff to do on his fleet so this spring will be a busy one. As long as Bob has Corvairs we'll have work to do Ha Ha I look back at the pictures and videos I took of the jobs we have done over the past 3 years and it's surprising how much work we have gotten done. We put a few Corvair back on the road that would have still been sitting. I totally enjoy working with Jason and Ed on this stuff. If you would have told me 5 yrs ago that I would be doing this I wouldn't have believed it. There is no better feeling than Putting a Corvair engine back together that hasn't been running for years and hear it fire up and purr. The before and after pictures tell the tale. One would think that with all the work we have done that my garage would be getting empty, well, it's getting fuller and the shed is filling up fast. Oh well, it's fun.
Ron Thompson

## Thank You!!!!

I would like to say THANK YOU to Tim Verthein for Hosting our web page and Getting our newsletter on it every month. He also handles our on-line store. So on behalf of the whole club we say Thank You!!!

## A New Grandpa!!!!!!

OK, now I know this isn't Corvair news but I have to brag. On Dec 28 My youngest Daughter gave birth to a 5 lb 9 Oz 17 inches long baby Boy!!! It's my first grandchild and I'm on top of the world!! Mother, Baby, and Daddy are all doing fine, Grandpa is another story. I just had to share the news!!

Ron \& Kathy Thompson
( Proud Grandparents)
Noah Edward Laessig
12/28/2008
Future Corvair Nut!!!


## Jason's 102HP Refresh



Well we tore apart Jason's old 102 HP engine yesterday and found one bad pushrod and a bunch of carbon. The cam was installed one tooth off so it had to be totally ripped apart. Also we found it has an aftermarket cam so he's checking that out to see what it is. New rings and rod bearings are on the install list. After a lot of cleaning of parts it'll be put back together. Then comes the fun. Jason has a Judson supercharger that's going to go on. This is going to be fun!!! More pictures to follow.
Ron Thompson

## CORVAIR UNDERGROUND

1974-2009
It would be trite of me to say that this is the hardest letter I have ever had to write. It would be trite and, well, untrue as well. All of us have had negative events in our life, some worse than others. On a scale of negativity this letter ranks pretty high, but l've seen worse.

In 1974 I was young and stupid. I started a part time business that, by any rational measure, looked like an eccentric lark. For reasons I still don't fully understand that excursion blossomed into a full fledged mail order business.

When my 2nd wife and I separated in 1982 I almost lost the business. But I kept stubbornly plugging away and, with the help of Linda (whom I married in 1983), managed to rebuild the Corvair Underground into a legitimate International player in the Corvair parts market.

35 years is a long time for any business to last, but very little lasts forever. 2009 marks the year that Linda and I will begin to liquidate our corporation. We've seen and had to make many changes in the way we've done things. That's how you survive 35 years.

But the past 3 years have been just a bit much. First we tried to sell the business for somewhat less than it was worth. Then we tried to sell it for a lot less than it was worth. Then we almost gave it away. In every case the "serious" buyers passed up on a real opportunity, mostly because of a lack of funds.

I have had health problems before, but my heart/stroke surgery 2 years ago really threw a monkey wrench in everything. Add that to failed attempts to sell, losing my key employees in the process, and a general downturn in the economy has made the going rough. Truthfully I promised Linda Winter before last that we would not struggle through another Winter (Our traditionally slowest time of the year). And here we are.

It's time for me to do something else. What that is, I have no idea. But I do know that it's time to wind this business down.

Our intention is to have Corvair Underground closed by late Spring of this year. Whether that will be possible or not remains to be seen. Even though our operation is considerably smaller than our "heydays" of the past 35 years, there is still an unbelievable amount of inventory here. I would still claim that we are the second largest inventory of new and reproduced Corvair parts in the world. We also have about a quarter mile of shelving and a lot of other equipment and stuff.

Is there a buyer out there? Time's running out. I may have to dump all this stuff on the open market and though "garage" sales. Not really looking forward to that.

If you have even a passing interest in our clearance make sure you're signed up for our electronic NEWS. It's free and easy. Just log into our website at www.corvairunderground.com. That will be the primary way I will be announcing open house sales dates and other breaking news.

So far as continuing to take and process your mail orders - that will not change at all. A number of our reproduced items will NOT be replaced and some inventory that requires large purchase commitments will not be replaced either. In the meantime we'll keep processing orders for the foreseeable future just as we have since 1974.

Has Corvair Underground been a positive force in the Corvair parts market these past 35 years? Well, the age of self-promotion of my business has ended for me. Other people and history will answer that question, eventually.


## Corvair Trivia <br> By Glenn Lemke

Offered for only three months during the 1966 model year, what was the rare Z83 option? Answer on page 6 NO PEEKING!!

## We Love Our Molly

When our 17 1/2 year old dog died last winter, Carol and I promised each other not to have any more pets. We wanted to begin traveling now that we are retired, and it would be too hard with a pet at home.

Move forward to the food drive at Super One this year. President Patty Prudden brought a cage full of kittens. My daughter, a long time cat lover, always thought we should have another cat. (Our 17 1/2 yr old cat died about 4 years ago). Well, I called her about the kittens and she finally wore me down, and I just might consider a new kitten. When she arrived, I was already holding our new baby girl. My daughter went into the store and picked up 2 large bags of necessities. Then I let her bring our new baby to my very understanding, very upset, even outraged wife of 43 years. I find it easier to ask for forgiveness than to ask for permission.

Since October 25th the day I broke my promise to Carol she still holds our kitty up and tells her "I don't like You", and then gives her lots of kisses. Talk about mixed emotions!! Then to top it all off, when we returned home after the food drive, my daughter and wife already named her "Molly" without even realizing that Pete and Patty's daughters name is Molly also.
notice how long our pets have lived in the past? Carol says at our age a new pet will out-live us. Therefore no freedom to travel not even at age 85, because by then, we would be too old to go anywhere and wouldn't remember how to get home. Especially with Art's ability to follow directions, as many of you are aware of that have gone places with Art.

Art is still living at home, still married, but has to change the litter, pay for all the many veterinarian bills and be responsible Daddy at his old age. This almost makes the military dump truck look like a good deal.

## Carol and Art Bringe

Here's a picture of our Molly and Arthur.


Trivia question answer: Highway Emergency kit

## Activities and Events

March 3 Committee meeting 6 pm Perkins London road 1 hr before regular meeting March 3 Regular membership meeting 7PM Perkins London Rd

## Corvair Society of America

February 2009

## RE: Jacksonville Convention Raffle Car

## Dear CORSA Chapter,

The Florida Chapters are pleased to announce there will be a Raffle Car at the Convention this year in Jacksonville, FL.

The Corvair being raffled is a 1964 Monza Coupe, 1104 speed with only 19K original miles. The car is a documented National AACA Seniors car. It is our intention to run this car through Concours in Jacksonville. At this point it is still undetermined which class it will enter. We feel very confident this car will be placed in the Factory Stock Restored Class. As you can see by the enclosed pictures we have a few things we need to correct in order to get the car into the class. We feel very strongly this car will make senior status during the convention.
Enclosed are tickets we hope you will sell to your members or the club could possibly purchase them and then distribute either buy selling or giving away tickets throughout the course of the next few months.

In order to encourage more ticket sales we are offering extra tickets as incentives. The cost of the tickets are $\$ 5$ each. If a person buy $\$ 20$ they will get 1 extra tickets, $\$ 50$ will get 3 extra tickets, $\$ 100$ will get 7 extra tickets.

Please return a check and or a check and any tickets not sold (as well as the stubs if you like) made payable to Central Florida Corvairs by May 1, 2009 to:

Central Florida Corvairs
12 Pine Trail
Ormond Beach, FL 32174
The winner does not need to be present to win. Thank you again, and we look forward to seeing you in July.

Sarah Beltrami
Convention Chair
Enclosures: Pictures, Chart, Tickets

## Florida Convention Car to be Raffled off



## Crusin!!! <br> Spring is on the way, and we all love showing off our cars!



This summer, Mn Hwy 23 is scheduled to be rebuilt, going from 4 lane to two lanes, from Gary new Duluth to Jay Cook State Park.

Hi-Way 210 is a great road course thru the state park to Thompson, and Gordys' Hi Hat is just a few miles down the road from there. If you haven't been there before, it is a muscle car paradise, wouldn't you love to show up in your air cooled wonder to show off?

How about sometime in May before construction is supposed to start? I'll come up with maps, we could start in Soup town, cross the Bong Bridge and make our way thru Morgan Park, New Duluth and Fon Du Lac. From there up to Thompson and then to Gordys...

This is a nice way to get together, have fun and show the locals who we are! We could even invite some other clubs/ individuals to join us.

It would be great fun if we could plan some trips up the shore, the Range and perhaps down towards Glens place, \{Home of the original Famous Daves I believe\} to support some of our members that don't live in Duluth-Superior. Perhaps the local establishments would be willing to give a group discount price, doesn't hurt to ask! This is a GREAT WAY to show support for our club members in other areas, and a chance for a nice drive.

So, if you have any ideas, drop me a line! My email is upnorth1@gmail.com, or Bob Saunders 704 east 5th street
Superior, Wi. 54880
Buy the way, I was checking on auto glass for my van, and asked the gut about Corvair glass. A windshield may run in the $\$ 130$ area. He will check all glass prices for us.


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