

NVCC, CORSA Chapter 220

Volume XXXV Number 9

September 2018

Chapter Chatter By Rory Clark

This month's meeting was held at our house (Rita and Rory) to work on the Rampside. We had a great turnout although Andy was the only one to drive his Corvair to the meeting. The Rampy did make a brief appearance on the road which I will elaborate more later on. Fortunately, the weather was decent for a mid-August day and one without rain. Combining all these factors, the meeting turned out to be a very successful day

While coming up with the plan to turn Rampy around so the engine would face the garage door, we decided to push it outside as far as possible. Keep in mind that I can normally push the Corsa further up the same grade by myself. It took several of us to push Rampy out and up the same rise in the driveway. It would have been a lot easier if the rear brakes were not engaged. I think the e-brake was applied a decade ago when it was left outside in the elements and they would not break free.

The moment of truth came after connecting the new battery. Will it start? The answer was no. First, a fuel line to the right carburetor was leaking. Then the brand new mechanical fuel pump was spitting fuel out of the top as well the left carb pouring fuel out of its top. It was popping and sputtering but not starting.

While I pulled the pump and replaced it with another spare, Bryan provided a lesson on how to time it by moving the distributor with the ignition on and holding the coil wire to a ground point. We also tapped the side of the left carb in case the float was stuck. I rebuilt it so who knows what was going on inside. I primed the pump again, got the temporary gas can situated (actually we raised the can up higher than the carbs to let gravity work for us), pumped the throttle to ensure fuel was squirting into the carbs and tried starting it again. SUCCESS even if temporary. It ran for a few seconds and then shut off. I realized that we were out of gas already.

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The Northern Virginia Corvair Club (NVCC) publishes the HOT AIR MAIL newsletter monthly as a service to its members. NVCC is a non-profit chapter of the Corvair Society of America (CORSA). The \$10 annual dues are payable January 1st, to "Treasurer, NVCC" at the address herein. A prorated amount of \$5 is accepted for periods of less than six months. All other correspondence and submissions can be addressed to the Secretary/Editor. Newsletter expiration date is three months beyond dues anniversary if they are not current. Original material appearing in the HOT AIR MAIL may be reprinted in other non-profit publications with appropriate credits.

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We filled the temporary can, which is a spare windshield washer tank, and tried again. But before that we attached the choke pulls just in case they were required. Once again I turned the key and the engine roared to life. The chokes did their thing but I had the fast idle set a bit too fast so I shut it down. After disconnecting the choke pull downs I tried again. It started and ran for quite a while. It sounded good especially sitting dormant for 10 years or so and even better the longer it ran.

However, there was a HUGE smoke cloud forming in the garage. It quickly filled the garage and starting waffling out and drifted down the block. Any mosquitos within a block radius was instantly killed. After a few minutes I shut it down again and explained what I thought caused the smoke issue. When I got Rampy home I removed the spark plugs and poured mystery oil into the cylinders. Although I cranked the engine over with plugs out not all of the oil was ejected (literally) from the cylinders. We came to the conclusion that it was the mystery oil burning off as well as possible carbon.

With the engine running with minor issues at best, we set out to turn the Rampside around. This was not an easy task since my driveway is long and all uphill. Bob Walker brought his individual wheel dollies and we had formulated a plan to turn it around just outside the garage where the driveway only slightly rises. Thankfully, Bryan brought his truck and tow straps so we opted for the easier solution of letting horsepower do the work for us.

He pulled Rampy up the driveway and out onto the street. Then we positioned Rampy so it would be front first into the garage. We attached the tow strap to the rear and Bryan slowly moved it down the driveway. Thankfully everything worked out since the Rampside has no brakes except for the sticking rear shoes. I will start evaluating the brakes soon knowing that everything brake related from the front to the rear needs to be replaced.

To celebrate, I poured beer from our recently home brewed beer with the gang and we celebrated a successful meeting. Rita and I are extremely happy and thankful for everyone that came to the meeting and helped with getting Rampy started and turned around.



## **Local Car Shows and Cruises**

Corvair season is now. In-between the rain showers, drive your Corvair, talk to people, take some pictures, and send me something for inclusion in the newsletter.

This picture was taken at manor Hill Brewing in Ellicott City. The following day (Sunday), Rita and I went to the Burtonsville show. We arrived early and what a treat it was. The place was packed with some really cool cars. An older gentleman was checking out our car when he mentioned that a friend of his has 3 or 4 Corvair engines sitting on crates. At one point the friend was building air boats but due to his health he is looking to get rid of the engines. He passed on the guy's number and I plan on following up to see what he wants for them. I know that I would like a spare engine.



## The Donut aka Cars & Coffee

Burtonsville Town Square 15650 Old Columbia Pike Burtonsville, MD 20866 Burtonsville, MD 20866 Every Sunday @ 8:00am

## 43<sup>rd</sup> Edgar Rohr Memorial Antique Car Meet

Manassas Museum 9101 Prince William Street Manassas, VA Saturday September 15, 2018

## Cars 'N Coffee

Corner Bakery 10327 Westlake Drive Bethesda, MD 20817 8-10am every Saturday

## Car shows around the DMV and Beyond

There is a show close to you so get out and have fun.

http://www.cruisein.us/cruise-ins-car-events

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## Cars and Parts for Sale/Wanted

Anything for a Rampside including (2) 15" wheels and a windshield - Rory and Rita

## **Corvair Vendors and Services**

# Clark's Corvair Parts®

Our catalog lists over 15,000 parts for your Corvair. engine parts, body panels, upholstery and much are 1,000's of reproduced items available, pages information and lots of other helpful hints.



Check us out at <a href="www.corvair.com">www.corvair.com</a> or call today to order a copy of our printed catalog. You will quickly see why we are the world's largest supplier of parts and all your other Corvair needs. Clark's - More than Parts!

### Clark's Corvair Parts®

400 Mohawk Trail, Shelburne Falls, MA 01370 (413)625-9776

Email: <a href="mailto:clarks@corvair.com">clarks@corvair.com</a>

## **Corvair Underground**

PO Box 339 Dundee, OR 97115, (503) 434-1648 or (800) 825-VAIR

#### Corvair Ranch, Inc.

1079 Bon-Ox Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325, (717) 624-2805, www.corvairranch.com

Email: corvairranchinc@earthlink.net

## Original Parts Group, INC. - Coming in May

https://www.opgi.com/restoration-parts-catalog-corvair.asp

# 2018 Meeting Schedule

# All meetings begin at 9AM

**September 15th** Bryan suggested meeting at the 43rd Annual Edgar Rohr

Memorial Antique Car Meet

Manassas Museum, 9101 Prince William St.

Manassas, VA. 20110 10AM to 3:00 PM

http://www.bullrunaaca.org/

October 20<sup>th</sup> Doug Jones

November 17<sup>th</sup> OPEN

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## **Treasurers Report**

Balance 7/31/18 \$2914.05

Dues Received ----

Balance 8/31/18

\$2914.05

For Pictures of last month's meeting click here <u>NVCC Facebook</u>

Website: http://www.corvair.org/chapters/chapter220/

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/northernvirginiacorvairs/[instagram.com]

Fall Tips

It really comes down to just driving your car and enjoying the weather.

Do a thorough visual inspection by checking your:

Lights

Wipers

Belts

Brakes, including the brake test

Tires, including the proper front/rear air pressure

Wiring

**Battery** 

Fluids, including brake fluid and motor oil

Once you give your Corvair a once over it's time to take it out for a good long spin to get everything up to operating temperature. Enjoy the drive.

Remember, we are responsible for keeping this marque alive and viable for future generations. We still have the most affordable classic 60's cars in existence but we as a club need to be a part of promoting the Corvair as a really unique and cool collectable car. Drive em, fix em and promote them everywhere you go.

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