



**NVCC, CORSA Chapter 220**

**Volume XXXVII**

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**September 2020**

Chapter Chatter  
By Rory Clark

In this crazy year it is surprising that summer has come and in a few weeks it will be fall. The days all blur together now due to working from home for the past six months. Let's hope next year will be a reset and we are able to get back to a fairly normal routine.

Enough of being philosophical. Let's get into Corvair mode. Rita and I have been as busy as possible working on Rumpy. The wiring is all done except for a 60 amp circuit breaker that I will attach to the positive side of the battery. On the other side of the breaker I will attach the alternator wire and the 10 gauge red (mine is black) wire that runs up to the instrument cluster.

This Labor Day weekend we are going to install the gas tank. Once in, we will add some gas and see if we can get Rumpy started again. Prior to that, I have to fill the crankcase with good, but inexpensive, oil

to clean the crankcase of the gas/oil mixture. I drained the oil last week and it smells like gas. You have to love the Clark's manual fuel pumps. The one I had on the engine was new although it is a few years old. I bought an airtex electric fuel pump which I will install after I get it up and running again. I need to ensure the wiring is correct before I dive into the fuel pump.

In between getting some quality time on Rumpy I decided to install a racing stripe on Corvy. I am a complete rookie with doing this kind of work but it actually came out pretty nice. Just don't get too close. I still have the hood to do, which will prove to be just as challenging I am sure.

Attached are two pictures of my handy work. The first one is after I got the trunk (only) done. This was taken at the birthday car parade that we attended via Darren P. The second picture is after I finished the cowl and windshield panel, which were a lot easier to install than I thought.

**NVCC OFFICERS**

**President**

Doug Jones  
4349 Majestic Lane  
Fairfax, VA 22033  
(703) 309-8705  
1963.jones.d@gmail.com

**Vice President**

Greg Walther  
7025 Coventry Road  
Alexandria, VA 22306  
(703) 768-6040  
63redbrier@comcast.net

**Secretary/Treasurer**

A.J. Paluska  
6839 Brimstone Lane  
Fairfax Station, VA 22039  
(703) 250-4455  
Ajr13@earthlink.net

**Editor**

Rory Clark  
13201 Hathaway Drive  
Silver Spring, MD 20906  
(240) 463-7542  
roryinmd@gmail.com

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.



### Doug's Garage

This month, NVCC, held it's first in person meeting in a while. The meeting was held at Doug's house and the task at hand was to replace the o-rings on the oil cooler.

The meeting started earlier than normal to avoid the unbearable heat that the DMV had been experiencing throughout the summer. It was also held outside so the group could practice social distancing.

There was a good turnout and the gang proceeded to remove the oil cooler after a bit of catching up.

Doug had another one so the installation was straightforward. The new o-rings were placed on the replacement oil cooler and it was installed post haste. Doug also had his outdoor grill fired up to feed the group with a camp style breakfast.





## The Tool Addict

### "Luck of the Drawer"

By Bryan Blackwell

I recently acquired a used rollaway - that's a story for another day - and in the process I removed all the drawers. There on the bottom were a couple old brake tools that must have fallen behind a drawer and vanished into the case bottom. Of course they got a cursory cleaning and in the brake tool drawer they went. One was a Snap On drum adjusting spoon, with this kind of strange curved shape, not like my other straight blade versions. I didn't give it any other thought until recently, when Stefan came home with a caliper dragging on the rear of his Crown Vic.

Now, this car has four wheel discs, but the emergency brake is a drum unit that's hidden inside the rotor, which doubles as a very small drum (they are 7 1/4" shoes). Not only was the caliper seized, but when I got the rotor off (after some effort), the lining had come off one shoe and was wedged between the other shoe and drum. So, order a set of calipers, pads hoses, rotors, and emergency brake shoes and hardware. Almost two jobs in one!

Of course this little drum brake is different from a Corvair, but it still has an adjuster you access through the backing plate. What's odd is that it's a bit offset from the hole. "Ah ha!" I thought, "I'll bet that's what that strange adjusting spoon is for." Well, it definitely was better than a straight version, but I could tell it wasn't quite made for this job. So after getting cleaned up, it was off to the Internet to satisfy my curiosity.

A quick search showed that Snap On still sells it, under the vague heading of "Brake

Adapter" and with a description of the tool but no mention of what kind of car or truck exactly it's for. The one I have has the old script logo and a date stamp of 2001, so I knew the design had been around for a while. A couple of eBay listings mentioned 'vintage' so my next stop was the Collecting Snap On site, which has a large archive of scanned catalogs. A search there got a hit on page 87 of the 1967 catalog, item L:

"B-1461 Brake Adjusting Tool for use on 1960 - 67 Corvair, Buick Special, Olds F-85, Rambler, and Tempest. One tang set at 29° with a wheel finder radius for rear brakes, the other tang set at 45° with special curve to clear ball joint on front brakes. 8 1/4" long."

So, there's the mystery solved! I guess that "special curve" has proven useful on enough other cars to warrant them keeping it in stock for all these years, I certainly found it handy on the Vic. But I'm looking forward to trying it out for the designed purpose!



## **This Month's Featured Corvair**

This month's featured Corvair is Corvy. We are lining up for a birthday car parade in this picture (as mentioned above). There were a few cool cars in the parade, most of which are in this shot. It was a fun event and it was a lot more fun than I imagined. If you would like to showcase your Corvair, send me a picture and I will feature it in an upcoming issue.



## **Local Car shows throughout the DMV for 2020 Spring, Summer & Fall**

### **Car shows around the DMV**

There is a show close to you so get out and have fun. <http://www.cruisein.us>

For all shows, please check with the organizers or their website for rules and COVID information.

**Bethesda Cars and Coffee** – Saturday's Hours are always 8am to 10am and the address is 10327 Westlake Drive right behind Montgomery Mall. Note that while the sponsors do not require masks, they ask that you do not come if you don't plan on wearing one.

**31st Annual All Chevy-GM Car Show** has the green light for September 12, 2020 for their annual show. Because of Covid-19 rules there will be limited spacing requirements and therefore the need for Pre-Registration. The show is rain or shine and there is a large covered Pavilion with picnic tables for food consumption and to listen to the band.

The organizers expect the show to fill up and trying to register on the day of the event may not be a possibility. Please Pre-Register at [www.mdcamaroclub.com/shop](http://www.mdcamaroclub.com/shop)

## FOR SALE

**All for 1963 Rampside (FC)\*** – prices are all negotiable and/or barter or trade (Someone really must need some of these parts. Please make me an offer so these parts can be put to use again)

Front backing plates

Front and rear wheel cylinders – needs rebuilding

Single master cylinder – needs rebuilding

Front wheel hubs

Various other brake related parts

2 – 14" steel wheels for Rampside (FC)

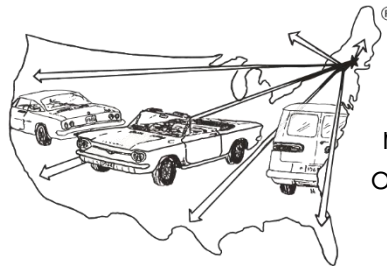
**Set of 4 13" factory steel** (came off of the Corsa) wheels in very good condition. Tires are mounted and have like new tread on them. \$175.00 or reasonable offer

Contact Rory at [roryinmd@gmail.com](mailto:roryinmd@gmail.com) for more information and pictures.

## Corvair Vendors and Services

# Clark's Corvair Parts®

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Email: [findit@theranch.today](mailto:findit@theranch.today)

## **2020 Meeting Schedule**

### **September 19<sup>th</sup>**

Stan Darke aka DMV Tees  
2800 Dorr Ave  
Suite J  
Fairfax, VA 22031

Work continues on Mabel. Help Stan get his mojo back and get Mabel running. Bring your mask!

### **Treasurer's Report**

Balance 07/31/20      \$3883.80

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**For More Pictures of everything Corvair related click here [NVCC Facebook](#)**

Thanks to Mark H for posting them.

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

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/northernvirginiacorvairs/> [\[instagram.com\]](#)

Remember, we have been given a special Corvair power. With that power comes responsibility. That responsibility is 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. Let's keep on driving them, fixing them and promoting them everywhere we go.