

The Flat Six Journal

Mid Continent Corvair Association Newsletter

April 2013

Spring weather stirs Corvair Activity

The April MCCA meeting is at the Oaklawn Activity Center which is the MCCA's new home. Some members will be gathering at Fat Ernie's, 2804 S. Hydraulic St. in Wichita about 5:30 before the meeting for dinner.

The focus of the March meeting was plans for the Great Plains Corvair Roundup MCCA is hosting this September. Larry Lee showed off some clocks he constructed out of Corvair hub caps. They would work well for awards or door prizes. Lloyd Folger suggested having a Corvair parts identification board.

Discussion turned to possible self guided tours for Saturday afternoon at the Roundup and transformed into possible road trips for the club. Some of the road trip suggestions were the Dust-off in Kansas City, the Cosmosphere in Hutchinson, the Sedan, KS parade, El Dorado Oil Museum, the Kansas Wheat Museum in North Newton and the Aviation Museum here in Wichita. Also discussed was setting up a movie night at either the Drive-in or Orpheum Theatres.

Too many people forgot about the April 7th business meeting at the Horstman's, so it was cancelled and the Brights and Horstmans had a good visit.

A the weather gets nicer (there is ice on the trees as I type this) get your Corvairs out, clean them up and drive them. Juna Tuna is coming up, it would be a great time for any repairs or improvements.



LP Penner took advantage of one of the nice April days to put some life in the paint of Terry Kalp's '61 Greenbrier, which had been untouched since 1976.



March Meeting
EM 1 LM 2



April Meeting
Saturday, April 13th 7 pm

Oaklawn Activity Center
4904 S. Clifton Ave. Wichita, KS

Classifieds

FOR SALE – 1966 Corvair Monza coupe, very original and several options. Original Cameo beige paint and bronze interior. Functional R-12 AC, tinted windows, remote side mirror, front and rear bumper guards, door



FOR SALE: 1965 Corvair. Jim Dallas is selling his Green '65 Monza coupe, 4 speed 140, nice white interior. Asking \$5000 contact him at 316-249-3507



WANTED: MCCA dues were due in January. If you haven't paid for 2013 Send \$15 to Ned Madsen, 1212 Patrick Henry, Derby, Kansas 67037

MCCA Officers

Doug Horstman
President
316-777-0351

Bob Bright
Vice-President
316-619-5800 cell

Ned Madsen
Treasurer
Secretary

Terry Kalp
Newsletter Editor
316-755-2458

Web Site
<http://www.Corvair.org/chapters/chapter672/index.html>

guards, trunk light, engine compartment light, 4 way flasher, rear speaker and even the original front floor mat. The engine was rebuilt by Mike Dawson a few years ago and runs perfectly. The PG trans shifts perfectly. You may know this car as Scott Allison's. I can send more pictures, if you're interested. I really hate to sell this car, but we're getting another driver in the family and won't have the room for two Corvairs. My asking price is \$12,000. Contact me via e-mail at aeroned@aol.com or my cell at (316) 680-3483 – Ned Madsen



*No Dues
You Lose*



Rev. Dr. Michael Bingenheimer of Ascension Lutheran Church checks out the Corvairs with Larry Lee on Easter Sunday. The three Corvairs were displayed in a roped off area in front of the Church. "Extreme Restoration" was the message that Sunday.



SEPTEMBER 27-29, 2013

Airport Best Western

6815 W. Kellogg Dr. Wichita, KS

Rooms priced at \$74.99.

Reservations (316) 942-5600

Friday: Welcome Party Valve Cover Races

Saturday: Car Show, Model Car Show, Afternoon tours including Lawrence Smith Auto Collection, Saturday evening banquet

Contact: Ned Madsen aeroned@aol.com

CUSTOM Engines By

Jerry Wilson

(316) 264-5155

CHET WILSON ENGINE SERVICE

email: offykilr@aol.com 559 W. Douglas
www.chet-wilson.com Wichita, KS 67213

REAR-ENGINE SPECIALISTS

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Trade Show, Fast Corvairs and a Wedding

2013 Performance Workshop

By Terry Kalp

Thursday, March 14 was one of the first really nice Spring days in Wichita. So I had to wonder what Ned and Kathy Madsen and I doing on the road to Indianapolis where it was 40 degrees cooler and snowing. The answer was the Corvair Performance Workshop in Indy. The Wichita group had met up with Scott Allison and Travis Bolton in Kansas City for lunch and were traveling on together to Indy.



LEFT: David Clemens and Ken Hand discuss David's track racer as Ned returns from the conference room
BELOW: Not much Stock Corvair left in the "trunk" of David's Corvair
BOTTOM RIGHT: Tom Miller showed of his 140 engine in the parking lot.



Friday morning Ned and I were up early to attend the Hot Rod and Restoration Trade Show at the Lucas Oil exhibition center. Seth Emerson had arranged tickets and transportation. Breakfast was included. Several awards were presented during the breakfast session including honoring David McClelland "voice of NHRA" with the Petersen Lifetime Achievement award. Once all the talking was over there was still time left to see the exhibits.

Friday afternoon we headed out to Anderson to the LeVair Performance shop to take the tour and bench race with the other racers there. Michael LeVeque had many interesting projects in progress.

Saturday was the official start for the Corvair Performance Workshop. It was held at Freelance Graphics 4 Gasoline Alley, Speedway, Indiana. They have been great hosts for the workshop for several years. Lots of Corvairs were on display outside, but the featured racers inside were Warren LeVeques "Roe car" and David Clemens very successful track racing LM. The presentation topics included: New Multi-disc Clutch Design by Ken Hand, Suspension Set-up; Track vs. Autocross by David Clemens, and Engine preparation by Tom Stark.



Indy PW

On the other side of the wall from the presentations were the parts vendors with new and used, performance and non-performance parts. Seth Emerson displayed a bolt-in tilt column kit for LM Corvairs that he is developing.

Saturday night was for celebration. It was the wedding of Tracy and Michael LeVeque at the Anderson Fireman's Hall. Michael's father, Warren performed the ceremony. There was a Mexican Buffet and a lot of socializing afterward.

Sunday was for the trip home. It was St. Patrick's day and we took a little detour to Lawrence to visit Ned and Kathy's daughter, Megan and partake of corned beef and green beer.



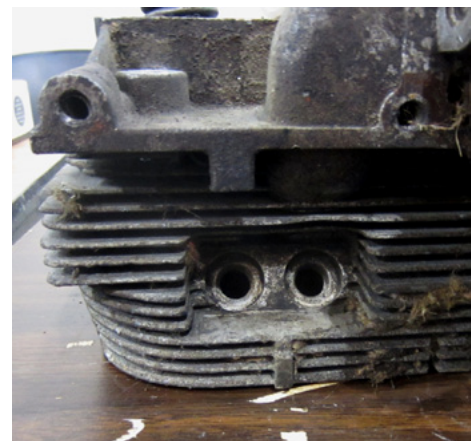
John Sweet made the trip from Pennsylvania with a great selection of new and used Corvair parts for sale. Ned and Terry both picked up some goodies for their projects.



The Box 'O' power belongs to Kevin Willison and contains a 1/2 inch stroked billet Corvair Crankshaft. With oversized VW cylinders it should make a 3.6 liter Corvair engine. Quite an increase over a stock Corvairs 2.7 liter engine



Warren LeVeque displayed the "Roe Car" a heavily modified 1960 Corvair Race car that was a "Skunk works" project of General Motors Racing. Built by Bill Thomas and later owned and modified by Doug Roe. Lots of history.



Paul Fox of Indianapolis brought along a pair of dual spark plug Corvair heads to display at the Workshop. Speculation was that the heads were modified for use in an experimental Aircraft.

Motor mount mod



The standard '60-'63 mount is marked for cutting. Use a '64 and later skid plate to mark the curve.



The top part was cut with a plasma cutter. Someone less shaky could have made a straighter cut.



The balancer side of the mount after a 1/4" strip was removed and the remaining parts welded together.

When GM stroked the Corvair engine from 145 cu. in. to 164 cu. in. in 1964 they added a harmonic balancer to the rear end of the crankshaft. The balancer replaced the stamped pulley that drove the cooling fan belt. Since the balancer was thicker a new motor mount plate was designed to allow additional clearance for the fan belt and/or Air Conditioning pulley.

If a harmonic balancer engine is swapped into an Early Model or Forward Control Corvair using the '60-'63 mount the only way to get the fan belt between the mount and balancer is to jack up the engine and loosen the mount. I found that out the hard way several years ago when a belt blew on my '62 Load-side going to a MCCA meeting.

If the swap to a harmonic balancer engine is in a EM car body then all that is necessary is finding a 1964 Mount plate and thinner motor mount. The FC's and station wagons use a different rubber biscuit style mount that require body surgery to use the '64 mount.

While swapping out engines

in my '61 wagon I decided to solve the mount/balancer clearance problem another way: cut a section out of the early mount adjacent to the balancer and recess it about 1/4 inch to allow for easy belt changes. It was a great excuse to play with the plasma cutter and welder.

0 compression On 2 cylinders



This piston out of Larry Lee's 140 shows damage from the combustion gases eroding one side of the piston. Often caused by detonation.



The back side of the mount after all the cutting and welding has been done. The new relief allows space for the fanbelt to fit between the balancer and motor mount.



From the other side of the same engine was this dropped exhaust valve seat. Larry was lucky the seat didn't shatter and scatter to other cylinders.



Sam Fuller is back in the area working with his dad, Dennis as a Millwright. The silver '62 coupe was brought back to life by Dennis and is now Sam's daily driver.

KC Annual Dust-Off

The Heart of America Corvair Owners Association will be holding their Spring event, the KC Dust-off, on May 18th, 11:30 am - 4:00 pm at John and Linda Mellies 11729 Leavenworth Road Kansas City, Kansas

John notes, "We are going to totally enjoy a day with good friends, and good food". A rain date has been scheduled for the next day, Sunday May 19th. Plans are for a combination Barbeque/Potluck dinner and a "ROAD TOUR".

For the Barbeque: Meat, baked beans, macaroni salad, cole slaw will be furnished. We ask each family to bring either a salad or dessert. Pop, iced tea, and water will be provided. If you would rather drink something else, then please bring it with you.

"If you have a favorite chair, bring it along."
Contact John Mellies 913-721-1361

2013 Events

April 13: MCCA April meeting at Oaklawn Activity Center 4904 S. Clifton Ave.

Wichita, KS 7 pm. Contact Doug Horstman 316-777-0351 for more Information

April 12-14: Heart of Texas Reunion in Montgomery TX At beautiful La Torretta Lake Resort and Spa. All suite rooms priced at \$109. Reservations call 877/286-9590. corvairhouston.com. Contact Phone: 281/794-5080

April 27: Time Trials at Marshalltown, IA Hosted by Yenko Stinger Group. Track event open to first 15 registered drivers, no on-site registrations. Open track all day. \$75 per driver. Contact Terry Kalp for more information.

May 18: KC Dust-off 11:30 AM - 04:00 PM- John and Linda Mellies 11729 Leavenworth Road Kansas City, KS. Rain date is Sunday May 19th. Plans are for a combination Barbeque/Potluck dinner and a "ROAD TOUR". Contact John Mellies 913-721-1361

May 29-June 2: Tri State meet in Cripple Creek, Colorado at the Double Eagle Hotel & Casino. Saturday Show 'n Shine and evening banquet. Contact Terry or Ned for more info.

September 27-29: Great Plains Corvair Roundup in Wichita, KS At Airport Best Western, 6815 W. Kellogg Dr. Wichita, KS 67209. Rooms priced at \$74.99. Reservations call (316) 942-5600

Pre-meeting eating at Fat Ernies B&G

Some MCCA members will be gathering at Fat Ernies Bar and Grill at 2804 S Hydraulic St, Wichita, KS 67216 in Wichita to eat before the April 13th meeting. So bring your appetite and join your friends at 5:30 on Saturday.

