

# The Flat Six Journal

Mid Continent Corvair Association Newsletter

September 2014

## Mel Horstman 1925-2014

Melvin Christian Horstman, 89, passed away Thursday, August 21, 2014. Graveside service was Wednesday, at El Paso Cemetery, Derby. Melvin was born to Edwin Christian and Emma Louise Horstman, in Chesterfield, Missouri, January 25, 1925.

Preceded in death by his wife of 67 years, Mary Frances, and brother, Lloyd Horstman. Survived by his sons, Melvin Douglas Horstman (Jean) of Mulvane; Thomas Alan Horstman (Mary) of Arlington, TX; Robert Christian Horstman (Beverly) of Wichita; daughter Mary Jo Jones (Loren David); brother Carl E. Horstman of Brentwood, MO; sister-in-law Floretta Horstman of Balwin, MO.

He had a decorated career with the USAF and retired as a Lt. Col. He was instrumental in the restoration of the B-47 on display at the entrance to McConnell Air Force Base in Wichita. He also worked for Kreonite and English Realty.

Mel was a member of the 83rd Air Capital Flight Order of Daedalians and Mid Continent Corvair Association. Memorials have been established with Harry Hynes

Memorial Hospice, 313 S. Market, Wichita, KS 67202, or The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, P.O. Box 9026, Pittsfield, MA 01202.



**Nine Corvairs meet at Rock Road and Madison in Derby then transported MCCA members in a slow procession to El Paso Cemetery for Mel's services. In honor of Mel the group was led by EM Corvairs.**



**Aug. Meeting**  
**EM 2 LM 4**



## September Meeting

**Saturday, Sept. 13th 7 pm**

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

# Classifieds

**FOR SALE: 1961 Rampside Pickup and 1961 Bell Van.** Buy these two FCs and make at least one good one. First is a 1961 Rampside freshly picked from an Oklahoma salvage yard. Fairly solid body with jus a bit of rust.

Mechanicals unknown. Manual transmission.

Next is a 1961 Bell Telephone van with windows on the passenger side and solid on the drivers side. Running driving vehicle. 1964 FC 110 hp engine with 4-speed. running and driving. Clutch does not seem to release fully.

Combine into to one or fix both of them up. For more information or to view the trucks. **Contact Dave Hanna 316-942-9076.**

Asking **\$1800 for the pair.**



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*Treasurer*

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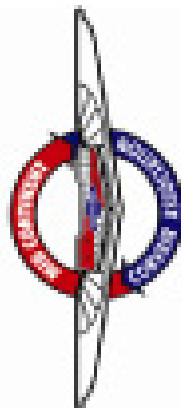
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**The Ultra Van grows a set of legs. With the engine out Owen was able to sit in the vacant compartment to sort out and upgrade the wiring. Progress continues on the mechanical side also. Owen and Terry**

## Larry's Notes

I plan to be in Nebraska at the time of the September meeting, so Bernie Strecker, VP, has the agenda and will conduct the meeting. Ned promises to let us know the status of the treasury, so we can make a few more expenditure decisions. We will discuss more detail about the Mel Horstman Award. Road Trip committee information promises to be interesting. We may need some planning for the Luna Tuna. May all who travel to Branson have a safe trip and bring us back some interesting stories. Those who stay in Kansas Oct 4 are invited to the Goddard Fall Festival Car Show (Car Club with the most cars in the parade gets \$50 prize).

## Pre-meeting eating Picasso's Pizzeria

Some MCCA members will be gathering at Picasso's Pizzeria at 620 N. Rock Road, Derby, KS to eat before the August 9th meeting. So bring your appetite and join your friends at 5:30 on Saturday. It is a chance to meet and socialize before the meeting. If you have suggestions on places to eat in the upcoming months let Terry or Larry Lee know.

# Mel Memories

I didn't know Mel very well. I met him at a few Tunas. He always a smile on his face and didn't know any strangers. My best memory is when he donated a bunch of parts at the Kalp castle and I picked up an early model glove box door. At the time I didn't own an early model, but I had a feeling at the time that I picked it up an early model was going to enter my life. It did, the purple panther.

**Chris Teer**

My favorite memory of Mel has to be from a Tuna a couple years ago. We were working on Mel's '63 that day and one of the items on the agenda was the radio in the car. Mel was complaining that the radio would work sometimes and sometimes it wouldn't come on at all. Figuring we had a faulty radio we located a new one and began the process of removing the old one. As I began the removal process I realized that something was very wrong with the radio. All that was there was the faceplate and the knobs. There was no radio at all. Of course I had to ask Mel "Hey I thought you said you heard music from this thing sometimes?" We all had a good laugh about it. It was a running joke with Mel and I every time we saw each other from that point on. I had a lot of great talks with Mel about his '63 as that was the same year I was driving at the time. I will miss Mel but whenever I think of him I smile and remember the radio that "sometimes worked" Thanks for the memories Mel and God bless.

**Greg Renfro**

I regret I did not get to know Mel Horstman better. I knew him as a quiet and friendly part of the MCCA meetings and events. I have great respect for the strength and wisdom he exhibited in his end of life decisions and actions, and wish I had spent more time learning about and from him.

**Larry Lee**

# Mel Memories

I would like to say we are deeply sorry for Mel's passing, he is missed by all. We both enjoyed our time visiting with him. I loved asking him about Mary because he would just light up and smile for the chance to have some one listen. His passion for family was amazing. Mel's stories of time gone by would warm your heart. When he talked about making apple butter was some of my favorites. Tell we meet again, Love you and miss you.

**Bernie and Julie Strecker**

This week has been full but I wanted to write something about Mel. He talked me into joining the club back in 2002 and had some great ideas on bringing back the corvair I bought in Colorado. Mel and Mary had my wife and I over at least 3 times and gave me hints on what could go wrong with my Monza. The things he mentioned did happen on a regular basis. He always took great care in helping Mary when we visited them.

We were most impressed with the number of items (Corvair) he had stocked in the garage. Mel was there when the club had almost no members and is a big reason it is this successful today. I like the idea of having some award attached to his name.

**Mike Miller**

Mel Horstman was the first "Corvair guy" I met in Kansas. I have so many memories of Mel, good times we had together, that it's difficult to write just one paragraph. I'm going to go back to the beginning, the first time I met Mel. I followed the Corvair club guys to the end of a parade in Derby. I wanted to learn more about the club. Of course Mel was very kind and friendly. Mel told me about the meetings and club activities. He really sold me on the Corvair community. Mel was the "president" of the club. His meetings were more like a group of friends getting together to talk about cars. There were several meetings

**Continued on Page 5**



**Ned Madsen and Lyle Ackerman sip their frozen treats at Sonic on 47th where several members gathered after the August meeting.**

## August MCCA Meeting Ends with Ice Cream

MCCA members met Aug 9, 2014 at the Oaklawn Center. One of the first items up for discussion was the Mel Horstman award proposed by Ned Madsen. The yearly award would be for the MCCA member that participated in the most club events in a Corvair. Everyone thought it was a great idea. Ned and Mark Welte offered to come up with recommendations to be presented at the September meeting.

Keith Lathum proposed MCCA to donate funds to obtain a Time-Sert tool kit for Club use. The kit was for second repairs on stripped spark plug holes. Terry Kalp moved to donate \$150 to Keith Lathum for club use of Time-Sert tool (pending sufficient funds) Motion passed.

Pre-meeting eatery variety Nu-Way (Lee Bright) Picasso's (Ned Madsen) More recommendations solicited from members to be presented at next meeting

**Continued on Page 5**



**Ned Madsen and Lyle Ackerman sip their frozen treats at Sonic on 47th where several members gathered after the August meeting.**

## August MCCA Meeting

Continued from Page 4

Also discussed were club road trips. Lloyd Folger proposed a trip to his farm in Northern Oklahoma during the March/April time-frame. The drive to the farm is 81 miles one-way. Ned Madsen proposed a scenic trip along KS-177 to the Tallgrass Prairie area, Strong City, Spring Hill Farm, etc. There will be more information on proposed trips at the September meeting.

Mark made a motion for the Club to reimburse Terry for a broken lift cable that occurred as a result of Juna Tuna. Ned 2<sup>nd</sup>. Ned reimbursed Terry on the spot out of petty cash.

Bob & Lee Bright will host the November MCCA Dinner Meeting at their home/shop at 120 Walnut in Derby. It will be pot luck so bring a side dish. The Dinner Meeting will start at 6:00 pm.

Other upcoming events were also noted. This month's MCCA meeting on Saturday September 13, the Friday night Central & West show and shine on September 19th get there as early as possible the lot fills up quickly.

The Great Plains Corvair Roundup set for September 30 thru October 4 at Branson, MO. The Goddard Fall Festival/Car Show also on October 4 hosted by Larry Lee.

October also has the MCCA meeting on the 11th and Luna Tuna the 18th. **Mark Welte**

# Mel Memories

Continued from Page 4

that were just me and Mel. He always had time to listen to me, answer my questions and offer advice. I enjoyed the time I spent with Mel.

**Ned Madsen**

I was attending the All Wheels Car Show at Lake Afton for years before I ever met Mel. Always attracted to Corvairs, each year I would check out the Corvairs on display at Lake Afton. Each year there were several beautiful Corvairs and I began noticing that a few of them shared the same owner, Mel Hortstman. I always thought if I could have a couple of Corvairs of that quality I would have it made.

Eventually I was able to meet the owner of the beautiful Corvairs that I had admired. It was then I found Mel was a beautiful person, more beautiful than his Corvairs. Mel's quiet authority and persistence kept MCCA going thru some tough times, his outstanding sense of humor always kept it fun.

**Terry Kalp**





Dominique Allen helped Travis Bolton prep the Shark for the race weekend. So he also earned a turn at the wheel. Instead of "tire-warming" for Travis he beat Travis' best time by a fraction of a second and posted the second fastest time of the day. Both drivers got a lot of laps in during the Saturday Test and Tune so they felt comfortable with the Shark for the Sunday Time Trials. Dominique did very well for being fresh to the car and track.

## HACO A Labor Day Open Track Event

HACO A sponsored and John and Teresa Miller hosted the Labor Day Dust Up on August 30th & 31st at the Iowa International Raceway in Marshalltown, Iowa. Terry Kalp drove up to Kansas City and rode to the track with Scott Allison. Travis Bolton had picked up the Shark a couple weeks earlier so he could prepare it for the races.

For the Saturday Test and Tune the Shark started out strong as different tires were tested. The recurring problem of a loss of power popped up. It was isolated to the left carb, which was torn down and it was discovered some gasket material was blocking the jet.

Back at full power the Shark turned a best lap of 42.171 with Dominique behind the wheel. Scott turned a personal best lap of 43.787. Best time for Travis was a 42.730.



Scott Allison, MCCA member from Kansas City, was happy because he cut over a second off his previous best lap time at the Marshalltown track.



Travis Bolton kicks up a little dirt as he works to find the quickest path around the Marshalltown go kart track in Terry Kalp's Shark. During the test and tune day on Saturday Travis and Dominique swapped several sets of race tires on and off the Shark to see which combination worked best. The front end of the Shark wanted to chatter a bit around the corners. The front wheels with the least positive offset seem to be the smoothest around the corners. Finding some wheels with more backspace is the next step.



**Beth and Cliff Tibbits add Kansas to the map of states they have visited during their Corvair travels this summer.**

## Tibbits visit Kansas

Beth and Cliff Tibbits of Lexington, KY took their '66 Corvair on the Northern route to the CORSA convention in Tacoma, WA in July. Then they headed south thru California and turned west following Rt 66 as much as possible.

At Oklahoma City they headed north and showed up at the Kalp Shop on August 6th. Ned Madsen showed up and after a chat and tour of the Kalp Corvair Compound everyone jumped into Terry's gold '65 four-door and headed to Sedgwick for supper at the Hoof and Horn.

**2014 Great Plains  
Corvair  
Round Up**



September 30-  
October 4

# 2014 Events

**September 13: Saturday** Pre-meeting eating. Oaklawn Activity Center Picasso's Pizzeria, 620 N. Rock Rd. Suite 360 Derby, KS 5:30 pm. Contact Larry Lee 316-734-5670.

**September 13: Saturday** September MCCA Regular meeting. Oaklawn Activity Center, 4904 S. Clifton, Ave. Wichita, KS 7 pm. Contact Larry Lee 316-734-5670.

**September 30-October 4:** Great Plains Corvair Roundup in Branson, MO At Branson Radisson 120 South Wildwood Dr., Branson, MO 65616. Rooms priced at \$99. Reservations call (888) 333-3333 Phone code word Corvair. Contact Scott Allison 816-506-6892 or Beaminscott@yahoo.com

**October 4:** Goddard Fall Festival Car Show and parade (Car Club with the most cars in the parade gets \$50 prize). At downtown Goddard, Ks. Contact Larry Lee at 316-734-5670 for details on where and when to meet.

**October 11: Saturday** October MCCA Regular meeting. Oaklawn Activity Center, 4904 S. Clifton, Ave. Wichita, KS 7 pm. Contact Larry Lee 316-734-5670.

**October 18: Saturday** Luna Tuna. Kalp Shop 2140 W. 101st Street North, Valley Center, KS 8 am till ????. Contact Terry Kalp 316-882-3056

**November 8: Saturday** November MCCA Meeting. Potluck dinner at the Bob and Lee Bright's 210 E Walnut, Derby, KS 6 pm. Contact Larry Lee 316-734-5670.



**MCCA Window Stickers**

**\$2 ea. 2"x5" See Ned Madsen**



Lyle Ackerman purchased this barn find '65 Corsa coupe near Russel Kansas. Last tagged in '71. Send your ran when parked photos to Terry tkalp@cox.net.

# Sept. Meeting

7:00 pm

## Sept. 13th

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

## Bonus Photo



Lyle's Corsa after a good bath. The 140 4-speed car is pretty complete, missing the front bucket seats and the Corsa tach. Right now Lyle is continuing to clean and make a parts list and to-do list.



### Calendar

**September Meeting**  
September 13












**2014 Great Plains Corvair Roundup**  
Branson, MO  
Sept. 30 - Oct. 4, 2014

**Goddard Car Show** Oct. 4

**October Meeting** Oct. 11

**Luna Tuna** Oct. 18

**November Meeting**  
At the Brights November 8

9-13	10-13	11-13	1-14	2-14	3-14	4-14	5-14	6-14	7-14	8-14	EM-2
											LM-8
