



RAMPSIDE



CORVAN



LOADSIDE



GREENBRIER



Sept / Oct 2010 VOL. 38, NO 5



Corvan Elvis Tribute

See pg 6

CORVAN ANTICS

A CHARTERED CHAPTER OF CORSA, CORVAIR SOCIETY OF AMERICA

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CORVANANTICS is the bi-monthly publication of Corvanatics, a Chartered Chapter of the Corvair Society of America (COSA). Established September, 1972, Corvanatics is dedicated to preserving and enjoying America's original and most innovative small vans and light trucks, the Chevrolet Corvair 95 Series.

Corvanatics is open to any COSA member with an interest in Forward Control Corvairs. Membership applications are available from the [Secretary/Treasurer, Larry Schmuhl 4563 Deep Grove Ct Jacksonville, FL 32224](#)

Dues are \$10.00 per year and must be sent to the Secretary/Treasurer. Sending them to any other address will only slow your renewal and possibly cause you to miss an issue.

Stories, articles, photos, memorabilia, or any other item for publication should be sent to the [Editor: Mike Moyer 2736 Sherwood Dr Navarre, FL 32566](#). All of these can also be sent by e-mail to: corvanantic@gmail.com. Technical material should be sent to the Technical Editor for review.

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FROM THE EDITOR

Thankfully the BP oil spill has not affected Navarre very much in at least oil on the beach.

Unfortunately I have been on mid shift for the last 2 months so nothing new to report on the Loadside progress. In fact I really haven't gotten much accomplished during the last 2 moths.

Can't wait to get my life back to normal in Oct. Hopefully I will be able to get back to the loadside and get the 65 brier back on the road then.

Mike Moyer

Editor



Riding With The President



It has been a great honor to serve as your president for the past year and I have been again honored to serve for the 2010-2011 year as your president. Thank you for your support! This past year has been a busy one for the Corvair community with the 50th Anniversary Celebration of the introduction of the Corvair and this fall's beginning of the 50th Anniversary of our favorite Corvairs, namely the FC's. I hope that you will all be able to take part in the various shows and celebrations during the next year.

This year's CORSA Convention in Cedar Falls, Iowa was an amazing and well attended show, with more FC's in one place than I have seen in a long time! I counted ten Rampsides at one point on Wednesday, with two Loadsides and six Greenbriers, WOW! We were able to show our "found" Corvanatics banner this year since it was located in the Galli's storage and presented to me by Larry Schmuhl at the Monday night welcome party. It hung in the atrium of the host hotel during the week, and on Friday during the People's Choice, I displayed it on the front of my Rampside. I will be using it to identify our organization throughout the year at the shows I attend and if you would like to use it please let me know. Our annual meeting was very successful with many members present. We wish to thank Clark's Corvair Parts for their contribution of T-shirts and hats as door prizes. The presentation by Allen Bristow concerning the status of CORSA was very enlightening. It sure was nice to see his Greenbrier Camper and Corvair powered boat at the People's Choice.

The trip to and from Cedar Rapids was HOT, but a lot of fun. I drove the Rampside 2253 miles at a max speed of 60mph, averaging 19mpg, which isn't bad for a 3:89 rear and 80 HP. The only problem we encountered for the entire trip was my wife's ignition key for the 2007 Accord broke in half while we were at the Autocross! Luckily I had my key with me, so we were able to get a new one at the Honda dealer (only two blocks from the host hotel) for \$120! Make's one appreciate our vendors even more for their low cost parts.

In home news, I have finally finished rebuilding the Powerglide in the 64-8-Door and it is now back on the road after over a year in group red. I'm just now beginning to work on the dents that occurred while it wasn't going anywhere (see January's Corvanatics). Preparations for our show in October are progressing well and I hope to see many of you there for the 50th Anniversary of the introduction of FC's and Wagons. This is our second "Vairs in the Valley" and is emphasizing all FC's and Wagons. Come on down to NC October 15-17.

Drive your Corvair!

John Nickel

From the Secretary

I've been out of state (Live in Florida, working in Oregon). Thanks to my wife Mary, we're keeping up the records. Anyone out there want this job? It really isn't hard and I'll be happy to work with you. Not much to report as I haven't seen my Rampside since May, but I will be going home for a while in September. For clues as to what I'm up to, visit www.USSRanger.ORG

I noticed there are a few members who get snail mail newsletters and were due in 2008. If this is you, there is a yellow highlight on your label. This is your last newsletter unless I hear from you and you get current. This year's COLE winner was Dale Dewald in a Greenbrier. Congratulations Dale!

Thanks

Larry

Greetings from the Eastern Director-

Lynn and I enjoyed our vacation trip this year camping in the Greenbrier. We drove 2735 trouble-free miles in total. Our ultimate destination was the CORSA International Convention in Cedar Rapids, but we also saw 140 miles of Illinois' Route 66, the Wisconsin Dells, Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, Elkhart, Indiana, and Marblehead, Ohio. We enjoyed our trip, but the weather that surrounded us on the first half of our vacation was unnerving. Severe thunderstorms and tornado warnings abounded all around us, but thankfully our trip was uneventful where that was concerned.

We enjoyed our time at the convention site very much. The parking lot each night was an unofficial car show and had a laid back party atmosphere. Some very cool FCs were spotted including Allen Bristow's '64 Turtle Topped Greenbrier camper with Corvair powered boat in tow, a '61 Campside, another '64 camper van, Corveric's very tricked out Rampside from Canada, the FC tow truck, Dale Dewald's deluxe '65, Jean Allan's '64 with the prototype folding third seat, and many others. And...there were a lot of cars there, too, including one impressive line of 1960 models. We enjoyed looking at all of the Corvairs in the parking lot, and then all in one place during the people's choice car show.

I would like to extend on behalf of the club and personally a huge congratulations to Dale Dewald for winning the Cole Award in his '65 Greenbrier. Dale is a super nice guy who loves these FCs and is so knowledgeable about them. He represents the club well and always has excellent advice for other Corvair owners. I think it is just plain awesome whenever an FC owner wins the Cole in an FC. Let's face it- it is just plain harder to win in one of these boxy trucks than in a car. But somehow their dedicated owners, like Dale, do win the Cole occasionally. I was especially impressed, as was most of the audience at the autocross, when he got his van up on two wheels! Congratulations, Dale!

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the 1961 Corvairs, including my '61 Rampside. I hope to get it to several shows this upcoming season to celebrate its 50th birthday. I know President John has a cool event in the Maggie Valley celebrating the '61's as well.

Enjoy your FC Corvairs and share them whenever you can. People who do not know anything about them will inevitably smile when they see one.

Safe travels! Ben Stiles

Stalling Rampside Adventures

Driving my Rampside one day a few weeks ago, it simply stalled while doing 45 on a fairly well traveled country road. I was able to sneak it off the road after cutting off an 18 wheeler in the other lane. Then I made the call to AAA and waited two and a half hours to be picked up. Thank goodness I drifted it to a shady spot to wait!

I had the roll back driver take me and my Rampside home as I was fairly positive I could get it running again. I had fuel spraying in the carbs, and after a quick call to Jeff Stonesifer to confirm, decided it must be in the ignition system.

I started by replacing the coil. It still didn't start. Then I replaced the condensor, points, and plug wires and distributor cap (as one of the old wire's end broke off in the old distributor cap after being glued in by some corrosion.) The truck still would not start.

OK- time to call in a master mechanic friend with some diagnostic tools. I must have missed something silly. The ignition switch turned to "on" diagnosed a short in the positive lead to the coil...but why? Turns out the terminal was touching the outer rim of the actual coil and causing a direct short. So...did I have the problem fixed after first replacing the coil? Maybe. I missed that the terminal was causing a short. Did it need points? Yep. Did it hurt to replace the condensor, cap, and plug wires? Not at all.

I had not touched the ignition in this truck since the Corvair Ranch got it running for me almost 8 years ago. It was due. As an added bonus of having it off the road for some time, I also removed the transaxle cover and changed the whirring starter out and sprayed off half an inch of Bondo dust from the body work that was done almost three years ago.

Now the truck and I are much more happy.

Ben Stiles



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Elvis Tribute Corvan

Lewiston Daily Sun

I have in my files a copy of a newspaper clipping from 1981. It shows a lanky, blurry guy identified as Churchill Hill next to a '62 Greenbrier which he's turned into an Elvis shrine. According to the writeup, it was painted with 65 airbrushed Elvis-themed images: movie bills from all 33 of Elvis' movies, album covers, scenes from his life, etc. The inside had an extensive memorabilia display protected by scale Graceland gates and a Rock Ola jukebox. Also along the outside were also 120 small reproduction gold records, each one identified with the title of one of Elvis' hits. Push a button in the middle, and the Rock Ola would load up and play the corresponding 45. As Elvisiana goes, this was good stuff.

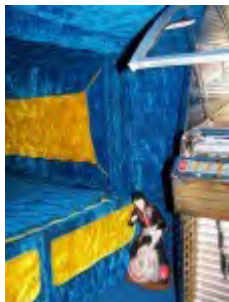
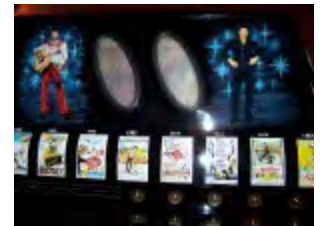


But aside from this single article in the Sun, I could never find another reference to this gem from the Vanning age. Surely, if it had survived, it'd have been mentioned at least once during the succeeding 29 years, right? So with no news, I assumed it had been forgotten, scrapped or otherwise lost.

But this was one of those things that just stayed in my mind, I have no idea why. So one day, I spent some time with White Pages for Elizabethton, Tennessee, and ultimately left a message on a machine for one Churchill Winston Hill.

He called me back the next day. Not only was he the guy, but the Greenbrier was still in his garage, in working order. Churchill came up with the idea of a rolling Elvis tribute at the time of The King's death in '77, with the jukebox as the central feature. As he was already a Corvair guy and car customizer, when he saw the '62 van for \$300 in 1978 or so, he had his canvas. Oddly, he wasn't really a huge Elvis fan; he just thought it would be a popular theme.

He made a special visit to Graceland for sketches for the exterior art and interior gates. After taking the northeast Tennessee vanning scene by storm, the Elvair faded into semi-retirement, although Churchill says he still brings it out for local shows from time to time. So if you're ever up near Johnson City and see the rolling black leather jacket, give the U.S. Male button a press for us.



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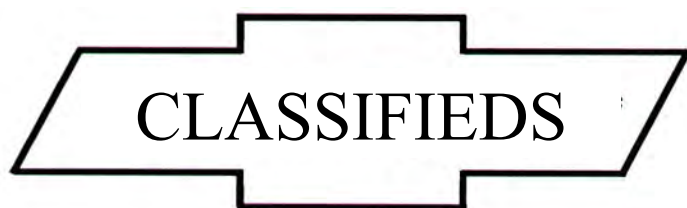


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For Sale: 1963 Corvair 95 Automatic. 3rd owner 24k Original miles, Found it in 2008 it was in inside storage for 40 years. (Second owner purchased in 1965 to move from California) Absolutely no rust anywhere. Had some garage rash from being stored so I did a scuff and paint nothing show just to protect it. Added Graphics for just that little extra touch. American Racing Out



law wheels with 60 series tires. I have original wheels and tires (tires are rotten from sitting) Fc bucket seats Gas tank was removed and cleaned. Carbs rebuilt. 1960s Orange

Shag Carpet in back. I installed a Greenbrier third row seat to haul kids. (Also have a center seat but not installed) Has front and rear Sway bars installed. Lowered the front springs and installed new front shocks. Installed Greenbrier side wall and door panels. Put 6k on it since I purchased it in 2008. Fun driver just not enough time or garage space to keep them all

\$5500

Mike Moyer Navarre, FL
850-261-1709
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Pinard, corvair-jack@yahoo.com,
805 340-6533.



Wanted: Camper Kit

If you have any connections that would help me find a Greenbrier camper kit Please Contact:

Pete Koehler pkoehler01@atlanticbb.net

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Members of the NFCC posing in Bob Guerin's 63 Rampside.



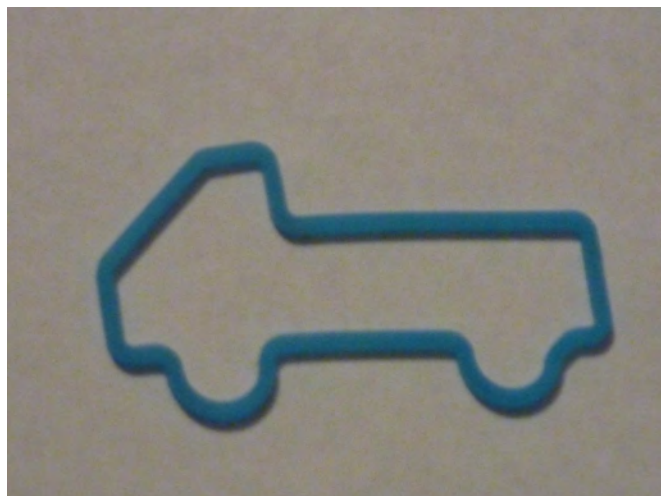
Once a year we have a meeting at this restaurant on Grand Island NY, called Adrian's.

This year we got local press coverage in the Island newspaper and pennysaver, also this photo was on the Local TV news

Gary Swiaowy

Silly Bandz Rampside Found!

Fads come and go. Silly Bandz seem to be the “in” thing with the younger crowd right now, so when my former principal was giving me an end-of-year present, I was surprised to have him hand me a Silly Band. It is the exact shape of a Corvair Rampside, and the same light shade of blue as my actual truck. It took some convincing to get his son to relinquish it to him, and I thought it was a very

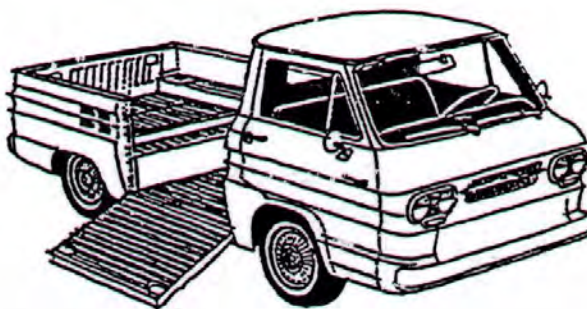


Members of Corvanatics

As the recently re-elected President of Corvanatics, I would like to invite all of you to come to our all-Corvair show 'Vairs in the Valley on the actual birthday of the Greenbrier, Corvan, Rampside, Loadside and Wagon in Maggie Valley, North Carolina from 15-17 October 2010. Information and registration are on line at www.ncmountaincorvairs.com. I have been announcing the show since last October in the Corvanatics and also in the Communique since June this year. There will be a birthday celebration on the 15th which is the day that these vehicles went on sale in 1960 and is therefore the actual birthday as was our 'Vairs in the Valley show last year on the 4th of October the actual first day of sale for the Corvair. We are featuring the Greenbrier, Corvan, Rampside, Loadside and Wagon but ALL Corvairs are invited. The show is in the Western North Carolina Mountains at peak leaf color time as well. Please come, we welcome you all!

John R. Nickel
President
Corvanatics
NC Mountain Corvairs

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