

# CORVAN ANTICS

January/February 2018, Vol. 46, Issue 1



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## *Riding with the President*

Another year has gone by and a new one is now upon us. What do you want to get done this year? It seems to me that every year I think that my goals and wants change, but somehow they are nearly always the same. Funny thing about goals and wants: if you don't act on them, they don't get done! My 64 8-door still isn't back on the road after two years due to differential repairs not being done. I have the parts and the knowledge to do the work, but I'm getting older and need someone to help pull the power train and to assist in lifting the various parts up onto the

workbench. What an opportunity to teach someone new to the Corvair hobby the care and maintenance of our beloved old cars and trucks! I think that this year my goal should be to teach someone new (or old) what I know. If I'm lucky, maybe my local club will have a Tech Session here at my house. Unfortunately, I don't have a "real" garage to work in, so weather becomes a problem, especially cold weather. I keep forgetting that even though I live in what's called a southern state (NC) it gets just as cold here in the mountains as it does in most of the states that are 500 miles further north. So maybe the immediate goal should be to do all the prep work that I can before warmer weather comes. I'm jealous of you that have a warm garage that is big enough to work in.



It isn't too early to get your hotel reservations for the CORSA Convention in Pittsburgh, PA in July and also to plan on going to the grand opening show at our new Corvair Preservation Foundation Museum in Decatur, IL in May. Both of these shows are on my "don't miss" list. I hope that many of you will attend.

I wish a Happy New Year to all of you. May your dreams be of FCs throughout the coming year.

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# Corvair Event Calendar

We will make every effort to use this space to list future Corvair Events. We will start with an event we normally go to and this will give you a format to submit your event information.

- **Corvair Lover's Holiday**, 02/23/2018-02/24/2018, 16 via de Luna, Pensacola Beach FL 32561, hosted by West Florida Corvair Club, contact [wfcc@mediacombb.net](mailto:wfcc@mediacombb.net)
- **Corvair Museum Grand Opening**, 05/18/2018-05/20/2018, Chevrolet Hall of Fame, 3635 US 36, Decatur, IL 62521
- **Corvairs on the Track - Barber Motorsports Park**, 5/18/2018 - 5/19/2018, Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts, c/o Howard Tutt, 1945 Linden St., Leeds, AL 35094, contact [GTOCHIEF@gmail.com](mailto:GTOCHIEF@gmail.com) or [HFTUTT@aol.com](mailto:HFTUTT@aol.com)
- **CORSA International Convention**, 07/23/2018-07/28/2018, 500 Mansfield Ave., Pittsburgh PA 15205, hosted by Western Pennsylvania Corvair Club  
website: <http://corvairpittsburgh.com/>
- **Add your event here!**

## Corvanatics Merchandise

Details, pictures and how to purchase at <http://www.corvair.org/chapters/corvanatic,s/merchandise.php>

Item	PDF	Mailed
Corvanatics Jacket/Hat Patch	N/A	\$2.50
Corvanatics Surface or Window Sticker	N/A	\$2.00
Corvanatics Magnet	N/A	\$2.00
Corvanatics Lapel Pin	N/A	\$3.00
Corvanatics Key Fob	N/A	\$8.00
Corvanatics Hat	N/A	\$18.00
Corvanatics Roster	Free	\$4.00
Powerglide Transmission Book by Bob Ballew	Free	\$10.00
Differential Booklet	Free	\$5.00
3-Booklet Set <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paint Codes (includes cars thru '64)</li> <li>• Prices and Options</li> <li>• Paint and Trim Combinations</li> </ul>	Free	\$5.00

# From the Secretary

by Molly Bacon

Hi all,

## Don't forget the address change

Reminder, I have moved to **5425 Morrow Road, Gladwin, Michigan 48624** and my phone has changed to **706-457-2242**. Please make a note of this so your dues payments and correspondence do not get returned. Of course, PayPal and email are the easiest and safest to use.

With this change, mailing to this address, you may have sent you dues and I didn't catch it in this newsletter since I'm completing this publication while still in Georgia.

Since last newsletter :  
285 members  
5 new members  
19 members renewed their dues  
2 members were dropped



## WELCOME !! to our new members

- |   |                |                               |
|---|----------------|-------------------------------|
| <i>Chris Rheinschild</i>  | <i>NC</i>      |                               |
| <i>Tom Nichols</i>  | <i>TX</i>      | <i>1962 Rampside</i>          |
| <i>Christian Timmermans</i>   | <i>Ontario</i> | <i>1962 Rampside</i>          |
| <i>Richard Stinson</i>  | <i>CA</i>      | <i>1961 Greenbrier</i>        |
| <i>William Kolbenschlag</i>   | <i>NM</i>      | <i>1963 Greenbrier 8-door</i> |
| <i>(for parts), 1963 Greenbrier Deluxe, 1963 Corvan (full window package and individual seats), 1964 Rampside</i> |                |                               |



## Dues Coming Due!!

Be proactive and pay now. You will never be penalized for paying early.

**Remember, if not paid by the end of the month your dues are due you will be dropped.**

### Coming due January and February

- |                     |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| <b>January 2018</b> | <b>February 2018</b> |
| James Cheek III     | Gene Barr            |
| Seth Emerson        | Tom Berg             |
| Howard Horne        | Rick Buck            |
| Joseph Werner       | Michael Burgio       |
| Clyde Jones         | Norm Wright          |
| Garry Krum          | Richard Kovacs       |
| Ron Mann            | Kenneth Ragan        |
| Frederick Marsh     | David Sanger         |
|                     | Eric Taylor          |

### Coming due March and April

- |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>March 2018</b> | <b>April 2018</b> |
| Dan Aval lone     | Ardean Ashelman   |
| Robert Babcock    | Jack Bacon        |
| Dennis Cain       | Patrick Connors   |
| David Feasel      | Al Hildebrand     |
| Ron Fedorczak     | Gary Zeller       |
| Robert Grieshaber |                   |
| Robert Hall       |                   |
| John Herkenratt   |                   |
| Don Hudock        |                   |
| Paul Huelskamp    |                   |
| Bryan Jaumot      |                   |
| Robert Langdon    |                   |
| Stuart Smith      |                   |
| William Watertor  |                   |
| Brian Whitaker    |                   |

### New member Christian Timmermanns' Rampside



# Vairforceone Leaving for France

by Jim Diell

I've sold my Greenbrier through an agency in Montreal.



To-day a hauler arrived and the Quebec driver had trouble driving it up the ramps and onto the first floor deck.

After 5 or 6 stalls we agreed, using some French and some English and lots of hand signs and pointing that I would conduit le camion s'il vous plais *drive the truck please.*



So this old fart drove it into place and not one stall. Non....there was no smoke and non clutch smell. Now my bucket list is one item shorter.



With a twinge and maybe some seller remorse after 15 good years this Texas 'Brier (ex Woody Thomas) is off to France from Parry Sound, Ontario via Burlington and Montreal, Quebec. I'm not aware of a date for its arrival in LaRoche on the west coast of France.

It left with new tires, new brake shoes and drums and the AC charged and working.

Bon Voyage, mon ami.



*We would love for more of you to tell us your story like Jim did here. -Ed.*

# Sending Unit R&R

by Fran Schmidt

Two years ago (2015 vol. #6, pg.15), I wrote to you about my installation of a 'Holey' gas tank in my FC. I included Sketches and Photos of the shifting mechanism that is used with that 'Holey' gas tank. Including the addition of my invention of how to one-up the original design they used on every stick shift mechanism used in the CORVAIR.



A few months later I wrote about how the sending unit for my gas gauge was hitting the HOLE in my 'Holey' gas tank. I showed how I R&R'd the sending unit without removing the tank.

A few months after that (2017 vol #1, pg. 11) I wrote about the leak that was in my 'Holey' gas tank and how I had the tank welded and resin coated.

I also wrote about the reasoning behind the "dents" on top of all the FC gas tanks (2017 vol.#5, pg. 10)

Later, I mentioned purchasing the correct sending unit, from Clark's, for the 'Holey' gas tank. This sending unit is installed about 90 degrees CCW from the other FC sending units - - supposedly so the float could miss the HOLE in the 'Holey' gas tank.

Now I am writing to you, again, about having removed - - for the umpteenth time - - my float unit. This sending unit with the float attached is mounted from the top of the tank (on all FCs). On the 'Holey' gas tanks the sending unit is mounted so the arc of the float's swing is fore and aft not side to side. Fore and aft to swing parallel to the HOLE.

As it turns out when I did this R&R operation a month ago I had the float mounted on its wire hanger on the wrong side. Gauge said ¼ tank but no more...so, not believing there could be anything amiss with MY install I figured the float got stuck on its wire bale so I opened it up, once again, and the float popped right up to the top. I figured I finally had it right, and reinstalled it.

Till the fuel level fell to ¼ tank and stuck there - - as if it were sitting on top of the HOLE - - again!

Chances were that the float was mounted on the wire towards the HOLE and that the float was hitting.

So, I removed the sender one more time and saw the float was indeed, on the side towards the HOLE. I turned it around. Drove till the tank was nearly empty (went down smoothly past ¼ tank) with the needle wiggling all the way. [ Causing waves in the gas makes the needle wiggle showing me that the float is loose and NOT stuck.]

Went to the station to carefully watch the gauge move as I filled the tank.

## From bottom to top it was smooth as silk!!

Here's how the float hangs on its wire bale. Obviously, the photo on the left put the brass float too close to the HOLE whereas moving the float to the other side gave it adequate clearance.

I'm so used to doing this that it took me about one hour to do the entire procedure - for this last time!

Keep CORVAIRing...happily! Fran



# FC Bumper Guards

by Dave Palmer

As some of you may know, for a couple years now I have been modifying Early Corvair Bumper Guards, to make FC Bumper Guards that are identical to OEM.

This has been quite an adventure, with over 80 units made so far.



The biggest challenge is to find good used Early bumper guards that are not destined for Early Corvair car restoration projects. Granted... they made lot more car guards than they made for the FC. The cars were much more prone to have added chrome.

The FC's, not so much as most were sold as utility vehicles.

So, doing these creates is a bit of a competition with the Early car people. But it also provides us FC people with the bling option that has proven to be quite scarce in the NOS and used parts world.

I am presently working on a batch of 20 more guards. Good cores are found, "not real easy", and inspected. Attachment hardware is removed. The bolts and mounting brackets are much the same for FC's or Cars.

Next I de-rust the guards. The back's do not have good plating and get surface rust. Especially from snow country. I have seen some of these guards that rusted away to a point that the chrome in spots was all that was left! It is true that rear mounted guards fair better,



thanks to O-ring oil leaks!

The next step is to inspect each unit and set them up in my proprietary sizing and marking tooling gizmo. This is where I mark each guard for removal of the material needed to make them fit FC bumpers. Then I take away the unwanted steel. During this process the top threaded mounting plate is removed. This will later be welded back in the correct position for the larger FC bumper. Another special tooling is used to assure fit.



Each guard is checked and rechecked for fit on an actual FC bumper throughout the modification process. An OEM guard is also used to check size and shape. The goal is to have as close as possible, a original bumper guard just as Chevrolet intended.

The upper threaded mounting plate is welded in place. Again using a positioning tool I fabricated.

There is no A or B, Left and Right guards with FC's. They are all the same, side to side, front to rear. Final fit check is done by actually mounting each unit on a bumper before going to California Corvairs for plating.



(Continued on page 7)

## FC Bumper Guards (cont.)

(Continued from page 6)



The first four prototypes of these are still mounted on my Greenbrier, “Valveeta”. I want to thank everyone who has helped Jeff

and myself in the hunt for Early guards. It is fun to see them showing up on FC’s around this neck of the woods and elsewhere.

It should be noted that these are available from California Corvair. I have a working agreement with Jeff for locating cores and final chrome plating. With this agreement, I do not sell these myself, except once a year at the Great Western Fan Belt Toss and swap meet in Palm Springs each fall. It’s more gratifying to be the “Guy” than selling these for any purpose of making money.



The adventure continues for as long as we’re still having fun keeping up the “Bling”!

## The Director’s Corner

Hello Corvanatics members. My name is Chris Brown and I am in my second term as Corvanatics Director at Large and am also the Corvanatics Historian.

I worked for an engine rebuilder in the early 70s, was employed for many years in the farm and construction equipment business, owned my own fast food joint, and worked for several years in manufacturing. I have been retired since 2012.



My wife, Molly Bacon, the Corvanatics Secretary/Treasurer and Newsletter Editor, and I have owned several Corvairs, 3 FCs, 3 station wagons, 2 Monza coupes and a Corvair-powered Ultra Van.

The Board of Directors have bi-monthly calls and planning is currently underway for The Corvanatics Annual Meeting at the Pittsburg convention. If you have a suggestion for a tech session or would like to be a presenter, please contact your area director or myself. Remember, the directors are your voice.



## Tech Tip—needs no words

by Jim Diell



# Found on Facebook

by Molly Bacon



Eric Prosis does the holiday decorating again. Last edition his Rampside was decorated for Halloween. He also made the newspaper.



(Above) A Lighted Pickup Parade entertained a large crowd on Sixth Avenue Saturday evening. (Left) Families worked together to find the elf in each participating location.



Jim Williams—the work begins



Delmar Southall



Gary Rubin's trip to Corvair Ranch



# More Found on Facebook



**Art Landis**  
Take your Corvair to work



**Not an FC,**  
but member  
**Herb DuPlant**



**Eva McGuire,**  
Sunny and her  
Corvan, Blupy



## Robert Burns' models

Robert Burns added 5 new photos.  
12 mins · 🌐  
Corvair Rampside. Latest finished model. Over the top rust, not meant to be realistically detailed.



**Mike Gassmann**



**Corvair Museum preview**

# More Found on Facebook



Eric Holtz



Jay Nugent



Steve Braverman They keep multiplying



New member,  
Will Kolbenschlag, one of  
his many FCs.

Picture to right needs no explanation



Rod Murray's Stanley Cup rings shown off by John Sweet.

Rod works for the Pittsburgh Penguins NHL hockey team.



# Veterans groups coordinate with Corvair

by Billy Cannon



The Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts along with Heart of Georgia Corvair teamed with MG Gerald Watson Chapter of the Chemical

Corps Regimental Association (CCRA) to participate in the annual Veterans Day Parade in Anniston, Ala., Nov. 11, 2017.

Alabama, home to the oldest Veterans Day celebration – in Birmingham since 1947 – is also home to a large Veteran community as well as many Corvair lovers. Five members of Heart of Georgia Corvair came to Anniston for no less than three reasons. To once again assist their sister club with providing Rampsides and Convertibles in providing rides for Veterans, the camaraderie and connection of fellow Corvair owners and Veterans and additionally, the opportunity to take a pleasant road trip through the spectacle of fall colors.

Returning this year from Georgia were James and Lillian Law in their award winning Teal colored Rampside,



Billy and Eleanor Bruce flying the POW flag in their matching Black truck.

The Anniston area is still home to an active group of CCRA members.

Several of them, along with the former Chemical Corps commandant, Retired Maj.Gen. Gerald G. Watson, rode in a total of eight classic Chevrolet Corvair vehicles.

The vehicles, all registered with the Corvair Society of America, was one of more than 55 entries in a large parade for a small community. Thousands of local residents lined Anniston’s Noble Street as nearly 1,000 people marched or rode in the one-hour-long parade.



Other elements in the parade included Col. Joel Warhurst, commander of Anniston Army Depot, four high school marching bands, the Talladega (Ala.) College Marching Tornadoes Band, the Alabama Corvette Club, Veterans of the U.S. Army Women’s Army Corps (WAC), and a variety of other organizations, clubs, and businesses, as well as the Calhoun County (Ala.) Sheriff Honor Guard.

“Like in years past, our committee has worked hard to organize an excellent Veterans Day Parade the entire community can be proud of as a public demonstration of our love, honor, and respect for the men and women who have served our nation as members of the Armed Forces of the United States of America,” said Linda Peters, parade coordinating committee chair person.

The committee selected Retired Command Sgt.Maj. Helen Johnston to be the parade Grand Marshal. She joined the WAC in 1952 and retired more than 28 years later at Fort McClellan.

For three years the Vulcan club has had to split forces in order to grant requests from parade officials on two fronts. The Birmingham parade where Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) have asked VCE President John Cleveland to provide Corvair convertibles for DAR dignitaries. The Calhoun County parade committee preferred the Corvair Rampsides because of the unique ability to provide wheelchair bound veterans easy access into the bed of the truck for riding in the parade without hassle.



(Continued on page 12)

# Veterans groups coordinate with Corvairs (cont.)



(Continued from page 11)

And finally, fellow Forward Control aficionados, we come to this author's truck which is a '62 with '64 four speed running gear and a 140 horse power plant. It serves as the 'Parade Support' vehicle that carries all the flags, banners, mounting hardware and anything else that is needed to help this operation move as smoothly as possible. Some like to use the term 'Patina'. others tell me to keep it "just like it is" and then there are those that ask; "When ya gonna paint

that thing?" I tell all these folks that right now I am having too much fun driving it and will someday, eventually, finish it as a tribute to my own Retired Navy Veteran heritage of which I am proud to say..."I Served!"

**Russ Thuleen's "Shorty"  
Always a crowd favorite.**



## Corvan Antics—thru the years

by Chris Brown



### 10 years ago - 2008 issue 1

Fran Schmidt explains how to repair the windshield pillar to front panel crack that many FCs develop

### 20 years ago - 1998 issue 1

Ben Stiles wrote a tech article about how to adjust cargo doors for proper operation and to eliminate rattles

### 30 years ago - 1988 issue 1

### More FC/TV

Another FC/TV "find". Remember the television series "Alice: starring Linda Levin? What makes the Stage Manager of that show so special to CORVANATICS members? Answer" His name—DON CORVAN!  
William "Dal" Dalrymple

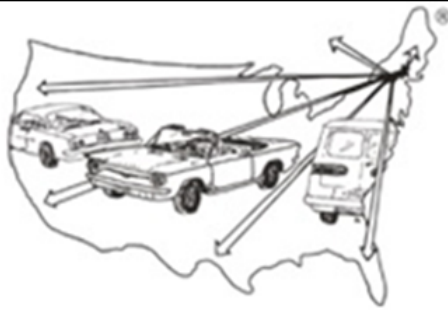


### 40 years ago - 1978 issue 1

Ken Young's Super Truck, a 63 Rampside with a 327 Chevy is featured.



Ken Young's SUPER TRUCK



## Clark's Corvair Parts®

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

Check us out at [www.corvair.com](http://www.corvair.com) 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! |

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### Reproduction FC Front Floor Mats Are Now Available

Standard (not Deluxe) Black Mat, for FCs with a standard or powerglide transmission and front defroster duct

\$245 + shipping Contact Steve Spilatro  
[spilatr@s@marietta.edu](mailto:spilatr@s@marietta.edu)

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

Corvanatics is open to anyone with an interest in Forward Control Corvairs. Annual dues are \$10 for an emailed newsletter and \$15 for a mailed newsletter. Application and payment is made to the Secretary/Treasurer either through the Corvanatics website at [www.corvair.org/chapters/corvanatics/membership.php](http://www.corvair.org/chapters/corvanatics/membership.php) or by mail. If mailed, include a completed membership form. Forms can be printed from the website or obtained directly from the Secretary/Treasurer.

Stories, articles, photos, memorabilia, or any other item for publication should be sent to the editor. They can also be sent by email to [CorvanAnticsNews@gmail.com](mailto:CorvanAnticsNews@gmail.com). Authors are asked to submit at least a photograph of themselves for the article with any other photos.

Technical material will be sent to the Technical Editor for review.

For advertising in the newsletter, please contact the Secretary/Treasurer. Members can have a free small ad in the newsletter. Display advertising is also available at the following rates:

- Full page \$25
- Half page: \$15
- Quarter page: \$10
- Business card (2" x 3.5"): \$5
- Photos for ads are \$6 each and can be color or black/white

Please submit print-ready or typed copy and pre-payment to the Secretary/Treasurer. Authorization and payment must be received prior to each issue. Deadline for publication is the 15th of February, April, June, August, October or December. All ads must be Corvair-related.

## Performance Corvairs

[WWW.PerfVair.com](http://WWW.PerfVair.com)

[setbratcer@dol.com](mailto:setbratcer@dol.com)  
408-247-2237

- Electronic Distributors
- Dash Parts
- Steering Columns
- Steering Wheel Adapters
- Quick Steering Components

Proud Supporter  
of Corvanatics

Performance Corvairs  
San Jose, CA

*From your newsletter editor -*

Thanks to all who promptly submitted content for this edition of Corvan Antics. It came together easily. I have a couple of items that I can't fit in. I did try to catch up my Found on Facebook. I had a lot of pictures from a few months ago.

Now, this doesn't let any of the rest of you off the hook. The couple of pieces will only take a page, so I need more. Tell us what you're doing to your FC during these long winter months. For those of you in more temperate climates, when you have events, sent us a write-up and pictures.

Finally, since I started my Found on Facebook column, members have slowed down posting pictures out there. I certainly hope I did not make you think twice about posting on Facebook. I have had individual members contact me saying they liked that column and hope to see more on some that were on-going projects.

Hint, hint, Nicole, how's the camper going? Alex, any news on a date for your Loadside being on TV?

*Don't forget!!*

**Dues savings for multiple years**

**Just for emailed newsletters**

If you purchase five years, you will get five years for the price of four. **5 years for \$40.** Also, if you purchase ten years, you get it for the price of eight. **10 years for \$80.**



**The Winner Is  
Greg Schupfer  
\$10 Clark's Gift Certificate  
Remember, you can only win if  
your dues are current**

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