



the fifth wheel

APRIL 2011

HTTP://WWW.CORVAIR.ORG/CHAPTERS/LVCC

ESTABLISHED 1976

Inside this issue

Cookoo for Coupes! Pg. 1

Secrets Revealed! 190 CID Corvair Engine Pg. 2

Dues Are Due for Some of Yoos! Pg. 3

Huge Calendar of Events! Pg. 3

LVCC Meeting Notes Pg. 3

NECC Update Pg. 3

Classified Ads Pg. 3

Next LVCC Meeting Pg. 4

Calendar of Events Pg. 4

LVCC Membership Roster Pg. 6

Cookoo for Coupes!

Who needs a Ferrari when you already own one of the world's most beautiful cars, a Corvair coupe?

I miss coupes. Few of the car manufacturers make them anymore. Sure, you can still buy a Mitsubishi Eclipse coupe or a BMW coupe.

But you can't get a Chevy coupe, a Ford coupe, or a Chrysler coupe anymore. No Pontiac coupes, no Oldsmobile coupes, no Buick coupes, no Dodge coupes, no Plymouth coupes. No coupes no more.

It's a sad thing. I, for one, will not give up my coupes, and so I was recently reduced to buying a Yaris coupe for my daily driver! What else could I do?

Why pay for four doors when nobody uses the back seat? Why waste precious resources on extra door latches and hinges? It doesn't seem right!

Back in the good old days, parents wanted coupes because they could throw the kids

in the back seat and not worry about them jumping out the doors. There were no doors for the back seat!

But I suppose child-proof door locks and children's safety seats have dispelled that logic. Ever try buckling a wiggly little toddler into a the rear seat in a coupe? It ain't easy! And what about squeezing your prize heifer into the back seat of a coupe to bring her to the local 4H fair?

And so, for most people, coupes are like a dog that don't hunt. Nobody buys 'em and nobody makes 'em.

Still, I'm cookoo for coupes! *And if it's a Corvair coupe, so much the better!*



Corvair Corsa Turbo Coupe sporting a set of Buick GNX wheels with Chevy knockoff spinners. James Dow, Owner.

The Fifth Wheel is published monthly by the Lehigh Valley Corvair Club (LVCC), Inc. We accept articles of interest to Corvair owners for publication. Classified advertising of interest to Corvair owners is available free of charge to all persons. Commercial advertising is also available on a fee basis. Please contact our newsletter editors, Wesley Weiss and Allan Lacki, for details.

LVCC is one of the many regional chapters of the Corvair Society of America (CORSA), a non-profit organization that was incorporated to satisfy the common needs of individuals interested in the preservation, restoration, and operation of the Chevrolet Corvair. LVCC caters to Corvair people who live in and around the Lehigh Valley Region of eastern Pennsylvania. This is a very special car club! LVCC dues are \$10 a year for CORSA members or \$15 a year for non-CORSA members.

SECRETS REVEALED! THE 190 CID CORVAIR ENGINE

With photos from Mark Langford's Corvair Site at <http://www.n56ml.com/corvair/>

What does it take to build a 190 CID "big bore" Corvair engine? Guys use them for powering sand rails, drag racing, road racing, boats and even airplanes! And there are plenty of articles about them on the internet.

But most of the articles digress into all of the accessories necessary for adapting them for propellers, reverse rotation, turbocharging, and the like. What if you want to build a nice 190 CID Corvair engine without all the extra gingerbread?

Well, the basic trick is to start with a 164 CID Corvair engine and replace the cylinders and pistons with larger units from a Volkswagen 412.

Of course, there aren't many old Volkswagen 412s around anymore to serve as donors for such a project, but this engine was also used in the Porsche 914, and so high-performance replacement parts are available. Cima, the Brazilian division of Mahle of Germany, makes aftermarket jugs and pistons for the 412/914 engine, and so that's the secret.



94 millimeter CIMA Mahle jug, machined to clear Corvair cylinder head studs.

The Cima/Mahle jugs are substantially larger than stock Corvair jugs and so a lot of machine work is necessary to adapt them.

Bob Sutcliffe of La Verne, California used to sell a "kit" for converting 164 CID engines to 190 CID. Bob isn't in this business anymore, but a number of years ago, he offered a brochure that described the basics.

Bob's "kit" was really an exchange service, whereby the customer would send in a Corvair engine case, heads, and rods. In return, Bob would machine them as necessary and send them back to the customer with 6 Cima jugs and pistons.

The work consisted of the following modifications:

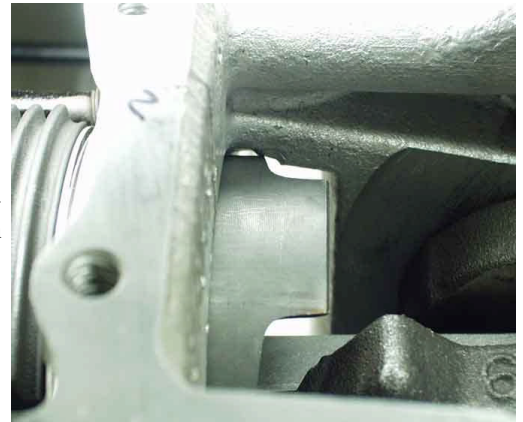
1. Bore the engine case and cylinder head spigots for the larger diameter Cima cylinders.
2. Machine the Cima jugs to the proper length so that they can be used with Corvair rods.
3. Machine the Cima jugs to clear the Corvair cylinder head studs.
4. Notch the Cima piston skirts for clearance with the case.

In addition, Bob re-worked each of the customer's stock Corvair rods as follows:

- a. Magnaflux each rod.
- b. Grind the large end for clearance on BDC.
- c. Rebuild the large end with new ARP bolts.
- d. Bore small end for VW pin.
- e. Drill two small holes in the small end for oiling.
- f. Polish the beams.
- g. Balance.
- h. Shot peen.

When Bob sent the parts back to the customer, he included:

- 6 new CIMA cylinders, 94 MM.
- 6 new CIMA forged pistons.
- 6 new sets Cima rings.



Tight clearances! A lot of die-grinder work is necessary to eliminate all the points of interference.

Bob's brochure claimed a lead time of approximately 30 days.

As noted, Bob isn't in this business anymore, but there are a few other machine shops that offer "big bore" conversion services like Bob used to do.

But this is definitely a "buyer beware" project. Mark Langford has been flying Corvair-powered airplanes since 1999 and has built two of 190 CID Corvair engines of his own. Mark offers this warning: "When anybody that asks me about building one of these "Big Boy" engines, I usually try to discourage them. There is a LOT of work that goes into a big bore engine, and there are a lot of resulting unique parts that are almost impossible to get.

I learned that you just about can't pay a machinist enough money to create a set of these. Most folks will be at the mercy of a machine shop and their workload and schedule. There is a lot of measurement and fine tuning with this setup also. "

And so, there you have it. A basic description of what it takes to build a 190 CID Corvair engine

DUES ARE DUE FOR SOME OF YOOS!

Annual dues are due every August for everybody in the club. At our March meeting, Treasurer Dick Weidner noted that some of our members haven't paid-up this year. We're thinking that some of you may have forgotten! If you among them, you will receive a reminder notice this month. Annual dues for LVCC are \$15, but if you are also a member of the Corvair Society of America (CORSA), then you pay only \$10. Either way, LVCC membership is the Bargain of the Century!

HUGE CALENDAR OF EVENTS!

Please take a look at the Calendar of Events in this issue of The Fifth Wheel. It is two pages long! Spring is here and the time is right for driving in the streets with your Corvair!

LVCC MEETING NOTES

LVCC held its regular monthly meeting on March 23, 2011. Vice President Dennis Stamm chaired the meeting. Dick Weidner presented the minutes of the February meeting and gave the Treasurers report. LVCC has \$1,483.22 in its checking account. Attendees also included Keith Kohler, Randy Kohler, Allan Lacki, James McNalley, and Fred Scherzer.

Correspondence: Dick Weidner reported that he received a letter from the Tidewater Corvair Club inviting LVCC members to the 2011 Virginia Vair Fair, which is being held Friday and Saturday, May 13 - May 14, 2011. Details about this event are posted at <http://www.vairfair.com/>

Randy Kohler submitted an announcement about the 48th Das Awkscht Fescht for publication in the CORSA Communique. Randy coordinates the Corvair display every year for this event, which will be held again on August 5th, 6th & 7th - 2011.

General Discussion: Dick Weidner talked about the Corvair Affair event he attended in Florida, which included a fly-in with Corvair-powered aircraft. Fred Scherzer announced that two auto enthusiasts magazines, Car Collector and Cars & Parts, have fallen victim to competition with the internet. They are no longer in print. Randy Kohler talked about a recent experience he had in submitting a claim to his antique car insurance agent. (Those who attended our meeting heard all about the juicy details!)

NECC UPDATE

Registration is now open for the Corvair Olympics, in Indianapolis, Indiana. Three days of time trials, autocross and drag-racing.

- June 16, 2011 - Time trials at Putnam Park, Mount Meridian, IN
 - June 17, 2011 - Drag racing at Muncie Dragway, Albany, IN
 - June 18, 2011 - Autocross at Carbon Motors Plant, Connersville, IN
- Visit www.neccmotorsports.com to register. Or contact Allan Lacki at redbat01@verizon.net for more information. LVCC is an NECC member club.

CLASSIFIED ADS

For Sale: 1969 Monza Coupe. Completely disassembled. Incredible body, running original 110-HP engine and PG trans, comes with all glass, seats, some chrome trim pieces. Original silver exterior paint, black interior (no headliner, no carpet). Complete undercarriage sand blasted and painted with POR-15. No front suspension, no wheels or tires. Must be trailered home. Body is mounted on dollies, can be winched or rolled onto trailer. Again, car is completely disassembled. Lost interest. \$300.00. Located in PA. Call Ray Coker, 570-946-9971 or 908-907-7328. (LaPorte, PA)

For Sale: 1963 Corvair Monza convertible. White exterior with black top. Powerglide. \$1,500. Photos of this lovely car are shown right here on this

page. Contact Keith Kohler. (215) 703-0644. kpissant@verizon.net



Next LVCC Meeting

Date: Wednesday, April 27, 2011 at 7:30 PM.

Place: LANTA Community Center
2nd Floor Meeting Room
1060 Lehigh Street, Allentown, PA 18103



LVCC Calendar of Events

April 16, 2011 :::: Cruise Night at Macungie.

Cruise Night at Macungie Memorial Park in Macungie, PA. 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm http://www.macungie.pa.us/Event%20pages/macungie_happenings%201104.htm.

April 16, 2011 :::: 5th Annual Wilkes ASME Car Show.

The Wilkes University chapter of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) is conducting this car show adjacent to the Student Union Building at 84 West South Street, Wilkes Barre, PA 18766. 50+ awards this year. Registration \$10.00 per vehicle. Each car owner will receive a goodie bag which includes a T-shirt. First 100 entries receive a dash plaque. For more information, visit the website at <http://asmecarshow.bravehost.com>, phone Ben Sauers at (570) 412-1481, or e-mail Ben at: benjamin.sauers@wilkes.edu

April 27, 2011 at 7:30 PM :::: LVCC Monthly Club Meeting.

Regular LVCC Club Meeting. 7:30 PM at the Lehigh and Northampton Transportation Authority (LANTA) office building in Allentown Pennsylvania. The LANTA building is located at: 1060 Lehigh Street Allentown, Pa 18103.

April 27 - May 1, 2011 :::: Spring Carlisle and Collector Car Auction.

Spring Carlisle and Collector Car Auction showcasing antique, collector and special-interest vehicles. info@carsatcarlisle.com or www.carsatcarlisle.com

April 30, 2011 :::: Antique & Classic Car Cruise in Douglasville.

Boy Scout Troop #597 is conducting its 4th annual Amityville Antique & Classic Car Cruise and Community Carnival at Daniel Boone Middle School 1845 Weavertown Road, Douglasville, PA. Car Show from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Rain Date: May 1 from 11:30 am to 5:00 pm. Dash plaques to the first 100 registered cars. Pre-register before April 20 for \$12. After April 20, the fee is \$15. You can register on the day of the show. For more information, e-mail: info@troop597.org or call (610) 404-4922.

April 30, 2011 :::: Community Day Car Show in Plymouth Meeting.

Community Day Car Show at the Central Monco Technical High School, 821 Plymouth Road, Plymouth Meeting, PA. Time: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm, weather permitting. Call (610) 277-2301 for information. Flyer at http://www.centralmontcotech.org/CMTHS_Community_Day.pdf

May 1, 2011 :::: Blue Mountain Classics 28th Annual Car Show in Bath, PA.

Blue Mountain Classics 28th Annual Car Show at Cliff Cowling Field, Barber Street at Rohr Street, Bath, PA US 18014. Located just off of Route 512. Rain or Shine. Registration 9:00 am to 12:00 noon. Show 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. Car Show & Flea Market pre-registered \$10.00. Day of Show Registration \$12.00. Flea market set up between 7:00 am and 9:00 am. Checks payable to Blue Mountain Classics C/O Donna Tully 5360 Hanoverville Rd Bethlehem, PA 18017. For more information, call Donna at (610) 625-0851.

May 1, 2011 :::: 33rd Annual General Motors on Display at Macungie.

33rd Annual General Motors on Display at Macungie Memorial Park. Rain or Shine. Registration 9:00 am to 12:00 noon. No judging. Dash plaques for the first 250 vehicles excluding cars for sale. Pre-Register for display or car corral by April 20 for \$8.00. After April 20, the fee rises to \$10.00. Registration will be open on the day of the event. Please bring a donation of canned cat for animals in distress. For information, call Rosemary & Don Haley at (610)-640-7464 or e-mail: GMonDisplay33@aol.com

LVCC Calendar of Events (Continued)

May 1, 2011 :::: Community Day Car & Bike Show in Quakertown.

Community Day Car & Bike Show presented by Sal's Pizza Randa, 240 S West End Blvd, Quakertown, PA 18951-1167. Rain date May 15. Show 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm. Open to all cars & bikes. DJ, National Guard, Scouts, giveaways, trophies, vendors, local businesses, and displays. Take a ride in the Big Banana Car! Call James Ragan at (267) 269-1411 or email legionriders255@gmail.com.

May 6, 2011 :::: Cruise Night in Palmerton.

Friday Cruise Night at the Bowmanstown Rod and Gun Club 525 Club Road, Palmerton, PA, starting at 4:00 pm.

May 7, 2011 :::: 2nd Annual Spring Fling Car Show / Cruise In, Allentown.

2nd Annual Spring Fling Car Show / Cruise In at 649 South 10th Street, Allentown, PA 18103. Show presented by "Barely Legal Kustom's." Open to all makes, models and years of sports cars, classic cars, muscle cars, tuners, sport compacts, exotics and low-riders. Visit the website at http://www.carshowfinder.org/events/...-show_2527.htm Call (610) 440-0609 or e-mail: focusricerocket@yahoo.com

May 14, 2011 :::: 6th Annual Spring Rollout Car & Truck Show, Bushkill Twp.

6th Annual Spring Rollout Car & Truck Show at the Bushkill Volunteer Fire Company, 155 Firehouse Lane, Nazareth, PA 18064. Time: 8:00 am to 3:00 pm. Rain or shine. Dash plaques to the first 100 registered. Trophies, Chinese Auction, 50/50, Entertainment, Children's Activities, Breakfast Sandwiches Available, Auto Flea Market & Craft Vendors. For more information, visit the Fire Department's website at www.btvfc.com, email Ron at oldcarmecl@aol.com, or call Ron at (610) 759-1751.

May 14, 2011 :::: Brickel's Racing Collectibles Car Cruise in Leesport.

Location: Brickel's Racing Collectibles, Rt. 61 (101 South Centre Avenue), North Pointe Business Centre, Leesport, PA 19533. Dash plaques to the first 75 entrants. Cruise 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Judging ends at 12:00 noon. Trophies awarded 12:45 pm. Please help support a local animal shelter by bringing along any pet products or food. Monetary donations will also be accepted. Music by Sound Factory Entertainment. For more information, download our flyer at <http://www.brickelsracing.com/events/cruisinflyer2011.pdf> or e-mail: sdoerrman@brickelsracing.com

May 14, 2011 :::: 1st Annual Easy Does It (EDI) Car Show & Swap Meet in Leesport.

Place: Easy Does It, Inc. 1300 Hilltop Road, Leesport, PA 19533. Date: Saturday, May 14, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Rain Date: Sunday, May 15, 2011 at 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Entertainment: Music by DJ Dynamike, great food, raffle, 50/50 drawings, and numerous vendor displays. Awards: Best of show for the following: Antique, Street Rod, Muscle Car, Truck, Off Road, Race/Drag car and Club. Dash Plaques to the first 150 entries. Refreshments will be sold inside EDI Fellowship Hall. Pre-Registration \$10.00 by May 1st after and day of show \$15.00. For further information, visit our website at <http://www.easydoesitinc.org> Or contact Brad Reinert, Even Coordinator at (610) 401-3348; or via email at breinert9@frontier.com

June 16, 17 & 18, 2011 :::: Corvair Olympics at Indianapolis.

Corvair Olympics, in Indianapolis, Indiana. Three days of time trials, autocross and drag-racing. Visit www.neccmotorsports.com for latest information.

July 26th-30th, 2011 :::: CORSA International Convention.

Denver, Colorado. <http://rockymountaincorsa.com/denvaireleven.html>

August 5-7, 2011 :::: Das Awkscht Fescht at Macungie.

Macungie Memorial Park, Macungie, PA 18062. Bring your Corvair to the Corvair Display with LVCC on Sunday, August 7! But you must pre-register by July 1, 2011! Full details at <http://www.awkscht.com> Information hotline: (610) 967-2317.

September 9-11, 2011 :::: Annual Corvair Camping Weekend.

At the Pioneer Campground in LaPorte, PA. Ray and Kathy Coker, Pioneer Campground's new owners, are Corvair enthusiasts. This will be their fourth annual Corvair Camping Weekend. You can visit their website at <http://www.pioneer campground.com>. Or call Ray and Kathy by phone on (570) 946-9971.

Lehigh Valley Corvair Club Membership List

NAME STREET TOWN STATE ZIP PHONE EMAIL

Sorry internet readers! We redact our members' personal information from newsletters published on the web.

Legend:

- (1) President
- (2) Vice President
- (3) Secretary / Treasurer
- (4) Newsletter Editor
- (5) Interim Editor and NECC Club Rep
- (6) NECC Club Rep

Our Postal Address:

Lehigh Valley Corvair Club
2304 Main Street
Northampton, PA 18067

Club Officers:

President: William Remaly
Vice President: Dennis Stamm
Secr-Treasurer: Richard Weidner

