



# the fifth wheel

AUGUST 2012

[HTTP://WWW.CORVAIR.ORG/CHAPTERS/LVCC](http://www.corvair.org/chapters/lvcc)

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## Das Awkscht Fescht 2012 by Randy Kohler

There are few certainties in life, but you can usually count on three things on the first weekend of every August: sweltering heat, pop-up rain showers, and the Das Awkscht Fescht descending upon the small borough of Macungie.

The three-day event brought out a few hundred cars Friday and over 1,000 cars each day on Saturday and Sunday. The flea market vendors and car corral were also out in force.

On Sunday, LVCC participated in club day along with 34 other marquee car clubs. We had the same area as the last few years and were very pleased with the space, and especially with the shade provided by the few trees nearby.

This year we had 38 great Corvairs on display. They included four early open, ten early closed, eleven late open, ten late closed, and three forward control. 36 Corvairs hailed from Pennsylvania and two from New Jersey. Some Corvairs of special interest were a Fitch Sprint, two wagons, three Rampsides, and a nice V8 conversion. We also had a restored Monza GT promotional that was at Chevy dealers in the 60s.

The Crosley was the featured car this year and their club had quite a nice display under the tent. Crosley had a range of vehicles from sports cars to small utility trucks. They even

*(Continued on page 3)*



*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 editor, 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.

# Corvairs at Das Awkscht Fescht! *Photos by Dennis Stamm.*



*Scott Oberholzer 's Monza Jr. was a hit at the show!*



*Fred Scherzer enjoying some shade under the LVCC EZ-Up*



*Randy Kohler congregating with other LVCC members.*



*Carl Moore and Jerry Moyer tending the Door Prize tickets.*



*Wayne Troxell brought his Whizzer bike in his Rampside!*



*Thirty-eight Corvairs on display. A very successful outing!*

had a display of household appliances and radios that Crosley manufactured back in the day!

Next year's feature presentation will be the Buick and I am sure the Free Spirit Buick chapter will put on a good show.

Many thanks go out to Dennis Weaver who supplied our tent and helped park cars; Clark's Corvair for their generous donation of fan belts, oil filters, valve cover gaskets, and gift certificates; and Jerry Moyer, Dick Weidner, and Dennis Stamm for their generous donations of door prizes for our drawing.

I already filled out our application for next year's show, so mark your calendars for August 2 - 4, 2013. See you there! Randy Kohler.

### ***Welcome New Members!***

Two new members joined LVCC at the Das Awkscht Fescht show, Ron Peles of Stewartsville, NJ and Don Reinert of Bechtelsville, PA. Ron and Don are well known in the Corvair community and we all look forward to their active participation in our events. Welcome to the Lehigh Valley Corvair Club!

### ***Interview with Ed Hohe.***

We had the pleasure of interviewing LVCC's very first President, Ed Hohe, at the 2012 Das Awkscht Fescht car show.

Ed recalled that LVCC was formed when a group of local Corvair guys kept on bumping into each other at car shows in the Valley. After the big Philadelphia CORSA Convention in 1976, they decided it would be good to form their own Corvair club where they could trade their experiences on a more regular basis.

Dick Lehman hosted the first LVCC meeting at his home in Bethlehem. There were about a dozen members at that time. Ed, Dick Lehman, Randy

Kohler, Louie Bauer, Ben Daubert, Dick Weidner, and Jerry & Kathy Lopez were among them.

After the early meetings at Dick Lehman's house, LVCC moved its headquarters to Gutshall Chevrolet in Hellertown. Members of the club used to caravan to East-coast CORSA conventions, go on picnics, and camp-out at Carl Moore's woods in Mohnton, PA. Ed recalls that he pitched his tent under Carl's chestnut trees and that made for a lumpy mattress!

Some time around 1982, Bill Krause founded the neighboring Pottstown Area Corvair Enthusiasts (PACE) club, and Ed switched his membership. There were no hard feelings; it was just a matter of convenience because Ed lived in Coopersburg, which is a lot closer to Pottstown than Allentown. PACE remained an active chapter of CORSA until 1995. By the way, although Bill Krause was the leader of PACE for years, he has also maintained his membership in LVCC. Bill was among the many Corvair people in attendance at Das Awkscht Fescht this year.

During the interview, Ed also spoke about the Corvairs he has owned over the years. He estimates that he has held title to more than 300! He recalls that he bought his first Corvair - a 1966 low-mileage Monza coupe - for a mere \$600 back in 1970. It remained his primary transportation vehicle for four years. It was the start of a collection that included Spydors, Corsas, Fitch Sprints, Greenbriers, and a whole lot more.

Perhaps the most unusual of Ed's Corvairs was a Rampside equipped with the factory Chevrolet camping package. Yes, a Rampside camper, not a Greenbrier camper. It served as Ed's hotel room and sleeping quarters during the '76 Convention!

Ed also told the story of how he obtained the very first Classic Car license plate issued in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. He skipped work to wait

in line for it in Harrisburg on the date it was issued. His good fortune was reported in the Allentown Morning Call newspaper, and when he returned to work, one of his co-workers saw the article and squealed on him! But Ed says it was worth it. He still has it, and it is now affixed to the rear of his Buick Reatta. We have to get Ed back into our club so he can put his Classic Car plate back on a Corvair where it belongs!

Early LVCC Newsletter Editors included Randy Kohler, Randall Murray, San Yoder, and more recently, Wes Heiss. A big thank-you to all the people who have kept LVCC an active Corvair club since those early days in 1976!

### ***Congratulations to Paul Shade.***

LVCC Member Paul Shade's pristine 1960 Corvair 700 Sedan is one of the featured Corvairs in Jim Diehl's new book, entitled "The 1960 Corvair Scrapbook". This pictorial coffee-table book is sure to become a collectible item for Corvair lovers everywhere. And Paul's Corvair is certainly collectible, too! It is not only an early-production Corvair, (Number 769 off the production line in 1959), but also an AACA Senior-Division show car. It was lovingly maintained by LVCC member Marie Miller for many, many years before Paul had the good fortune to acquire it from her estate.

### ***Convention Recollections, by Al Lacki***

Five LVCC members-Larry Lewis, Jerry Moyer, Fred Scherzer, Dick Weidner, and yours truly-traveled to Sturbridge, Massachusetts in July to attend the 2012 CORSA International Convention. By now, you've probably read all the articles in the CORSA Communique leading up to the convention, and you may have seen some photos and videos from it. In fact, you can see some photos, courtesy of Dick

Weidner, by logging onto the “Photos 2012” of our own LVCC website.

By most accounts, the convention was a big success. Approximately 800 CORSA members attended, and 200 Corvair cars and trucks participated in the autocross, rally, concours, and car display. The activities were non-stop, and there were a number of convention “firsts”, including karaoke, slow drags, back-seat driving contents, an on-site go-kart course for the kids, and an ice cream social to entice folks to attend the CORSA general membership meeting. Awards were distributed through-

out the week, and this helped to expedite the proceedings of the end-of-affair banquet, which featured an entertaining speech by Corvair enthusiast Richard Lentinello of Hemmings Motor News. And oh, did I mention that Jay Leno sent in a video-taped greeting which was also played during the banquet?

Of course, it’s hard to satisfy everybody. Some folks were concerned that the vendors weren’t open for business until Thursday, not knowing that Thursday was the first official day of the Convention. So many people ar-

rived at the host hotel on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday!

We also heard a couple of gripes about the Car Display awards, but these were quelled when Bob Marlow posted photos of the awards on the Convention blog. The photos offered proof that the awards were creative, light-hearted, and attractive; obviously in keeping with the nature of the Car Display event. Most of the folks on Virtual Vairs reacted to the brew-ha-ha with howls of delight!

My favorite part of the Convention was

## ***LVCC Members at the 2012 CORSA Convention. Photos courtesy of Dick Weidner.***



*Larry Lewis and his fine 500 at the Car Display!*



*Dave Stein of PCA chats with Fred Scherzer & Jerry Moyer.*



*Dick Weidner and Doris at the Ice Cream Social.*



*Joan and Al Lacki , also at the Ice Cream Social.*

the Rally, which took us through the highways and bi-ways of central Massachusetts. The real highlight was a leg that took us through the Quabbin Reservoir park lands. Quabbin Reservoir is one of the largest man-made public water supplies in the United States. It was created in the 1930s by the construction of two huge earthen dams, and the roads through the park offer several scenic vistas.

Rally Masters Bob Scheidel and Bob Kovacs provided time for everybody to stop their cars along the way. So Joanie and I climbed the Quabbin Tower, where we were able to see the skyline of Hartford, Connecticut to the west and Mount Monadnock to the north. The view of Mount Monadnock was especially heartening to me because I camped there with my high school buddies forty years ago in my gone-but-not-forgotten 1965 Corvair 500!

Oh, by the way, did I tell you that Joanie and I got pulled over by a cop while we were on the rally? It's true.

We were peacefully driving through the quiet town of Palmer when I saw the flashing lights of a police cruiser following my car. I dutifully pulled over. The cop came up to the window. I pulled out my wallet and proceeded to look for my license. He said, "No, no! That's not necessary! I just want to take a look at your car! I'm seeing so many of them riding through town this



morning, and I just want to know what's going on!" So, I told him all about the big Corvair convention in Sturbridge. He complimented LeHeap and I complimented his Dodge Charger with the flashing lights. And then he let me go. Whew!

### ***Corvair Days Are Coming!***

Our neighboring CORSA Chapter to the west, Central Pennsylvania Corvairs, will be hosting its annual Corvair Days event on the weekend of September 15 and 16. It will be held on the grounds of the attractive AACA Museum located in Hershey, PA. Registration begins at 8 AM on Saturday. The schedule of events includes two Corvair shows, a funkanna, scavenger hunt, model car show, social hour, and

banquet. There will also be a gift card raffle for Hershey Activities, door prizes, 50/50 drawling, and food available both days. In addition, registration includes museum admission and a food voucher. Awards will be presented both days.

Hershey is just an hour away from the Lehigh Valley, so why not consider attending? If you have questions, send an email to Earl Holmes, [earlzgames@comcast.net](mailto:earlzgames@comcast.net) or give him a call at 717/991-7341.

### ***Dues Are Due!***

'Just a friendly reminder! LVCC's membership cycle is August-August each year!

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## ***LVCC Classified Ads!***

**FOR SALE:** *Windshield for 1960-1964 Corvair Coupes and Sedans.* Clear, with tinted band on top. This relatively rare windshield, recovered from a 1961 Corvair, has no chips and no delaminations. Price: \$100. Call Scott Oberholzer at (610) 867-2846.

**FOR SALE:** *Windshield for 1961-1965 Forward Control Corvair.* Tinted throughout. Another relatively rare windshield, recovered from a Greenbrier, has no chips and no delaminations. Price: \$100. Call Scott Oberholzer at (610) 867-2846.

**FOR SALE:** *1966 Corvair Corsa Convertible.* 140 hp. 4-speed. Power top. Aztec Bronze exterior with black interior. All-new brake linings, brake lines, brake cylinders, DOT 5 silicone fluid, rear suspension bushings, and fuel tank. A very attractive car that needs some tender loving care. \$5,000. Contact Randy Kohler. (484) 239-2067. [rjkvair@aol.com](mailto:rjkvair@aol.com)

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# LVCC Calendar of Events!



## **Sunday, August 19, 2012 ::: 36th Annual Coopersburg Collector's Car Show & Flea Market.**

Coopersburg, PA. At the Southern Lehigh Living Memorial Park, Rte 309 zip: 18036 Rain or Shine. Show Presented by the 1st Pa Mustang Club with ALL Makes, Models and Years of Cars & Trucks are Welcome! Show 10:00 am - 4:00 pm Registration \$10.00 by August 10, after & Day of Show Registration \$15.00, 10 x 20 Flea Market Spaces \$10.00 ea. by August 10 after and Day of Show Flea Market Registration \$15.00. Registration 8:00 am - 12:00 noon Door prizes, 50/50, Trophies, Dash Plaques to the first 250 Pre-Registered, Auto & Household Flea Market. e-mail: ShowInfo@1st-PA-Mustang.org or www.1st-pa-mustang.org Call 215-892-6758

## **Sunday, August 19, 2012 ::: 13th Annual Sticks Reunion Car Show in Wind Gap.**

Wind Gap PA - 13th Annual Sticks Reunion, Car Show at the Old Mt. View Drag Strip, E. Mountain Road 512 North of Bath, PA South of Wind Gap zip: 18091. Show open to all Muscle Cars, Street Rods, Antiques, Classics, Trucks, 4x4's, Motorcycles. Hosted by the Hi-Winders Car Club & The Slate Belt Mighty Mopars Vintage Drag Cars Featuring Ken Kull's Red Baron. Time: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm, trophies awarded at 2:30 pm to the top 20 plus Best of Show. There will be a D.J. Music, Great food & Ice Cream, Photos, 50/50 drawing, Trophies, Door Prizes, Dash Plaques to the first 100 show cars. Pre-Registration \$7.00 by August 10, Day of Show \$10.00, Spectators \$3.00 vendors \$25.00. Pro Zito e-mail: zitosspeedshop@rcn.com or <http://www.hi-winderscarclub.org/>

## **Saturday, September 1, 2012 ::: Duryea Day in Boyertown.**

Mark your calendar Labor Day weekend Saturday September 1, 2012 for the 47th annual Duryea Day antique and classic car show and flea market in the scenic Boyertown Community Park. 9 AM to 4 PM. Day of show registration: \$12. <http://boyertownmuseum.org/category/duryeaday>

## **Monday, September 3, 2012 ::: Cruise In at Big Lots**

Lehigh, PA. - At Carbondale Mall 1243 East Blakeslee Blvd zip 18235. Cruises will benefit the Toys For Tots chapter of Carbon County. We will have bins at the car cruise for toy donations. Please bring new, unwrapped toys only. Cruise 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm (Memorial Day Weekend) <http://northsidecruisers.webs.com/biglotscruises.htm> or <http://www.northsidecruisers.webs.com/> or <http://www.facebook.com/pages/North-Side-Cruisers/152960461434194> Neither the North Side Cruisers, nor the sponsors of the cruises are responsible for damages, loss, injury, etc. No Alcohol or Burn-outs please!

## **Saturday and Sunday, September 15-16, 2012 ::: Corvair Days in Hershey.**

Hosted by Central PA Corvair Club at the AACA Museum, 161 Museum Drive, Hershey, PA. Events include Funkanna, AACA Scavenger Hunt, Model Display, People's Choice Show, Out Door Vending, and a Banquet on at Saturday at 5:00 PM.

## **Wednesday, September 26, 2012 - Monthly LVCC 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.

### Directions:

From I-78: Take Exit 57, Lehigh Street. At the end of the exit ramp, go east toward the City of Allentown. Follow Lehigh Street of approximately 2 miles - past the Parkway Shopping Center on the right and Faulkner Volkswagen on the left - until you reach the LANTA entrance on your left. It is at the intersection of Lehigh and South Howard Streets, right across from a Hess service station. Drive around to the auto parking lot and enter through the main office entrance.

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***Next Membership Meeting: Wednesday September 26th***

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### **Mail Dues to:**

Lehigh Valley Corvair Club  
c/o Richard Weidner  
2304 Main Street  
Northampton, PA 18067

### **LVCC Club Officers:**

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