

Newsletter of Lehigh Valley Corvair Club Inc.

the fifth wheel

June 2023

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

ESTABLISHED 1976

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Next Meeting: 3rd Saturday of June 2023



Date: June 17, 2023 Time: 10 AM Place: America On Wheels 5 North Front Street Allentown, PA

The Fifth Wheel is published monthly by Lehigh Valley Corvair Club Inc. (LVCC), a chapter of the Corvair Society of America. 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. For details, email our newsletter editor, Allan Lacki, redbat01@verizon.net.

LVCC Drivers Duke it Out at NYST! by Allan Lacki

The Lehigh Valley Corvair Club is one of several CORSA chapters having representation on the Board of Directors of the Northeast Corvair Council LLC, better known as "NECC Motorsports".

You may be wondering what this is all about. Well, NECC has been putting on high performance driving events since 1973 when it rented Lime Rock Park for a day. Back then, it was an exclusively-Corvair event. No other cars were allowed. But over the years, we've permitted drivers with other makes and models to register, and now, they make up the vast majority.

A typical NECC event starts with tech inspection, a drivers meeting, a series of twenty-minute driving sessions on the track, then open track for the remainder of the day except for timed laps in late afternoon. Open track means any driver in any car can go out for as many hot laps as he or she can stand!

John Egerton and I attend NECC Board meetings and participate in NECC events like the one recently held at New York Safety Track (NYST) on Saturday, May 20th. NYST is located near Oneonta, west of Albany. John is the chief tech inspector and I'm the registrar.

Although I gave up driving on the track about a year ago, I continue to do timing in addition to keeping track of drivers

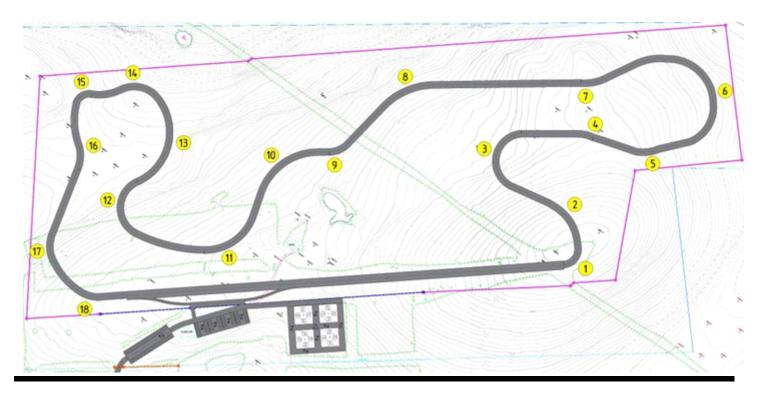
who have registered for our events. (The people who really do this are Roberta O'Neill and my wife Joan. I just sit around and try to keep out of the way!)

In addition to doing tech inspection, John drives his '64 Monza coupe at every NECC event and its high-performance driving event at New York Safety Track was no exception. Dan Schmidt, a relatively new member of LVCC is also a driver. He and his son Nick pilot a red 1965 Corsa coupe. John and Dan are regulars at NECC events and their Corvairs are highly modified just for track duty.

Other guys drove their Corvairs at NYST this year. Terry Stafford, who hails from the Long Island Corvair Association, drives at every NECC event with his 1964 Fitch Sprint Spyder.

Mike Pietro, another NECC regular, drives a very unusual 1968 Corvair. It's a 500, but it's equipped with all the factory performance goodies, including a 140 hp engine, 4-speed transmission, quick-ratio steering and heavy duty suspension. That's the way it was ordered from the Chevy dealer. It remains completely stock except for it's 7" wide rims and race-compound tires. Mike shared his car at NYST with Tom Hughes of Maryland and Geoff Flynn of New York.

NECC Prez Brian O'Neill shared his track-prepared '65 Cor-(Continued on page 4)



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Corvairs at New York Safety Track



LVCC VP John Egerton goes out for hot laps in his '64.



LVCC Member Dan Schmidt & Son Nick 's '65.



Terry Stafford from LICA in his '64 Spyder



Brian O'Neill & Tom Ludwig drove Brian's '65.



Mike Pietro, Geoff Flynn & Tom Hughes drove Mike's 68



John Egerton & Mike Pietro duke it out!

vair with NECC Treasurer Tom Ludwig. Brian's car is built like a NASCAR Grand National car, with heim joint suspension throughout, massive roll cage and many other goodies. Brian rebuilt the engine for this particular event and it ran just fine throughout the day.

There are a couple of unusual aspects about New York Safety Track in particular. The main straightaway was - and still is - a local airport runway. The runway was incorporated into the remainder of the track which consists of a series of tight twists and turns. The track was conceived as a motorcycle track, but it's wide enough for two cars running neck and neck throughout.

As noted above, the long straight away serves double duty as an airport landing strip. I suppose any aviator in a small plane with FAA clearances could land and take off from there, but it seems to be the private domain of Mr. David Lubinitsky, who along with son Greg, owns and operates the track.

It turns out that Mr. Lubinitsky owns a stunt plane which normally resides in a hangar next to the straightaway. But this year, early in the morning while the cars were going through tech inspection, he took it out to give the drivers an air show. After taking off, he did a series of aerial maneuvers that were breath-taking, including dives, barrel rolls, loops, smoke and more. The highlight was when he buzzed the track at what appeared to be ten feet above the tarmac! Zoom!

I'm happy to say all the cars ran well all day and that the drivers came away happy. At least that's what they told me!

NECC's next event will occur Saturday July 29 at Pocono Raceway in Long Pond PA - not too far from LVCC country! You may recall this was the venue of the Warren LeVeque Memorial Time Trials and Corvair Show in 2021. You can register to drive your car on the track, of course, but spectators are welcome too. Just sign the waiver when you enter the grounds.

We Get Mail

LVCC has long enjoyed "address stability" because the home address of longtime club officer Dick Weidner has been the club's mailing address for decades. But with Dick having stepped aside to care for his ailing wife, it was time to make a change.

We have obtained a Post Office Box, so that we may continue to have "address stability." The club President and Secretary each hold keys to the new PO box, and the intent is that they keys will follow the office, not the person, so no

(Continued on page 6)

MINUTES

Lehigh Valley Corvair Club Membership Meeting May 20, 2023 America On Wheels Museum Allentown, PA

Secretary Bob Marlow called the meeting to order at 10:10 AM, in the absence of President Al Lacki and VP John Egerton, who were representing LVCC at the NECC track event at the New York Safety Track.

The minutes of the prior meeting were approved as published in the FIFTH WHEEL newsletter. The Treasurer's Report was approved as published in the FIFTH WHEEL newsletter.

Old Business:

A brief review of the April 15 Swap Meet took place, with a general consensus that it was a success and that it should be undertaken again in 2024.

The proposed revision to the club by-laws, deferred from the March meeting, was discussed. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the proposed revision was approved without dissent.

New Business:

Rich Greene offered to lead a post-meeting tour of the museum's newest exhibit, which features Corvettes of all years.

A discussion took place concerning upcoming club events in June. These include the 44th annual "General Motors on Display" car show in Macungie on Sunday, June 4th, (sponsored by the Keystone State Chapter of Pontiac-Oakland Club International), and the Philadelphia Corvair Association's Drive-In Movie Night at Shankweiler's Drive-In in Orefield on Saturday, June 24th (rain date Sunday, June 25th).

Upon motion duly made and seconded the formal meeting was adjourned at 10:55 AM. Informal discussion took place also, on the topic of Corvair parts brought to the meeting by Rich Greene, Bob King, Bob Marlow, and Bob Weideman.

Respectfully submitted, Bob Marlow, Secretary

Register for Das Awkscht Fescht

For decades - yes decades! - Das Awkscht Fescht has been listed as a premier event on the LVCC calendar. And once again, long-time LVCC member and all-round good guy Randy Kohler has arranged for there to be a pair of rows on the show field devoted exclusively to Corvairs on Sunday, the third day of the event!

Sunday is "Club Day" at Das Awkscht Fescht, so in addition to Corvairs, you'll see an incredibly wide array of makes and models from the early 1900s to the 1980s.

Each day of this three day event has a separate theme and of course, you can register for any or all of them. There are also vendor spaces and a car corral available. For details, visit https://awkscht.com/ But please join us on Sunday. Pre-Registration is mandatory, so fill out the form and send it in with your registration fee no later than the July 1st due date.

Pre-Registration Form Only Post Mark Dea	ST 6, 2023 y - No Day of Show Registration adline: July 1, 2023 E A CLUB MEMBER	OFFICIAL USE ONLY F.S. S. S.S.
NAME	YEARMAKE	1983 · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
STREET	MODEL	
TOWN	BODY STYLE	
CHECK PAGE No Street Rods - No Street Machines - Custom or Modified	CLUB NUMBER (FROM LIST BELOW) Sunday Sun. Pre-Registration Jan. 2 thru July 1, 2023: ONLY ONE TENT PER CLUB ALLOWED LIMIT FOU DU ENTERING - BY NUMBER 4 FOR INFORMATION 21 - Edsel, Mercury, Lincoln 22 - Checker 23 - Nat. Woodie Club 24 - Ford Falcon, Fairlane 25 - Kaiser, Frazer, Henry J., AllState, Darrin 26 - Packard 27 - Mustang 28 - Rolls Royce 29 - Foreign Cars 30 - All 1927 & Earlier Cars CLUB, PARKING BY THE INDIVIDUAL	\$20.00 per car No Refunds IR (4) PERSONS PER VEHICLE 31 - Oakland 32 - Crosley 33 - Mercedes Benz 34 - Oldsmobile 35 - VCCA 36 - VW 37 - Mopar Madness 38 - British Car Club 39 - Happy Motoring 40 - Truck Club 41 - Jeep Club CLUBS.
NO STREET RODS - NO STREET	STRATION ONLY JUDGING CAR CLUB SHOWS AUGUST 6, 2023	
Listed below are the names of the clubs, who are holding show OPEN TO EVERYONE, need not be a Club Member. If in do	ws at macungle on Sunday in conjunction bubt, please write to Das Awkscht Fesch	with Das Awkscht Fescht. It, Box 127, Macungie, PA

18062-0127. Make checks payable to Das Awkscht Fescht.

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(Continued from page 4) need to change the address when we change officers.

So, for those occasions when you may wish to send an item of conventional mail, as well as for correspondence we receive from CORSA and other parties, the new address is:

Lehigh Valley Corvair Club PO Box 33 Orefield, PA 18069

Please make a note of it.

LVCC Treasury Report by Joan Lacki

Beginning Balance: May 3, 2023	\$ 878.89
Receipts	
(none)	\$ -
Expenses:	
Newsletter (Allan Lacki)	\$ (31.77)
Ending Balance: June 5, 2023	\$ 847.12

All GM Car Show at Macungie

More than 100 GM and GM-powered vehicles were on display at Macungie Memorial Park on Sunday, June 4th. They included a grand assortment of Chevies, Pontiacs, Oldsmobiles, Buicks, Cadillacs and GMC cars and trucks.

Corvairs were well represented and attracted a lot of favorable attention. LVCC Members Don Reinert, and Allan Lacki were there with their Corvairs. Bob King exhibited his 1930 Chevy 3-window coupe for a change.

Three non-members – Ted Kapp, Michael Acerra and Keith Weller – had their Corvairs on the show field. Michael and Keith's Corvairs are highly modified with Chevy V8s in the front.

Of the two, Michael's is more radical, with flared fenders and ground-effects body panels at the rocker-panel level, all done in steel. Keith's car appears to be stock until one notices the extra-wide wheels and tires at all four corners.

Don's and Ted's Corvairs are factory stock and are wonderful examples of the way they were equipped when they came out of the show room.





Calendar of Local Car Events

Cruise Night Anyone?

Go to https://carcruisefinder.com/ It's easy to use and lists more car cruises than we could possibly fit in this newsletter!

Other Car Events! LVCC-Sanctioned Events denoted with a check mark like this: ✓

Saturday June 10, 2023. Fleetwood Show of Wheels Car Show

Location: Fleetwood Community Park, 333 W. Main Street, Fleetwood, PA 19522. Time: 8 AM to 4 PM. Day of show price: \$20 per car. Food, entertainment, flea market, door prizes. Participant judging. 17 classes (but no Corvair class). Rubber Duck Race in the creek! Questions? Gary Eberly (484) 332-1056. Gary@effectivegs.com

Sunday June 18, 2023. 21st Annual Silver Creek Father's Day Car Show

Location: Silver Creek Athletic Association, 2943 Route 212, Springtown, PA 18081. Time: 8 AM to 3 PM. Rain or shine. Day of Show Price: \$10 per show car. Spectators: \$4 apiece. Kids under 12 free. Trophies, entertainment, food, drink, 50/50, play-ground for kids. Flea market spaces also available. Contact: SCAAcarshow@gmail.com. www.silvercreekathleticassociation. com.

Monday thru Friday, 6/19/2023 thru 6/24/2023 CORSA International Convention

Location: Chula Vista Resort, 1000 Chula Vista Parkway, Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965. Dates: June 19th, 2023 12:00 AM through June 24th, 2023 12:00 AM. Booking Information for hotel rooms: Booking Code: i79431. Toll Free #: (844) 240-4922. Event registration to open soon (typically early April). www.corvair.org

Saturday June 24, 2023 Drive-in Movie at Shankweilers

Location: Shankweiler's Drive In Theatre, 4540 Shankweiler Rd, Orefield, PA 18069. Rain date: 6/25/22. Time to be announced. Price will be standard admission price for the theater. Contact Larry Asheuer at a-lcorvair@msn.com or (267) 994-1569.

Saturday June 24, 2023 St. John's 13th Annual Car Show

Location: 1035 Old River Road, Birdsboro, PA 19508. Time: 9 AM to 3 PM. Day of show price: \$15 per car. Craft vendors, Door prizes, DJ, flea market, 50/50 & Belgian Sheepdog Demonstration (!) Info: Call Carol at (610) 823-2730 or (610) 582-3655. Email: office@stjohnsgibraltar.org. Website: www.stjohnsgibraltar.org

Sunday June 18, 2023 36th Annual Father's Day Rod Run

Location: Oley Fairgrounds, 477 Main Street, Oley, PA 19547. Time: 9 AM to approx. 3 PM. Rain or shine. Day of show price: \$15 per car. Open to all show cars and trucks. Vendor spaces available. Chinese auction, games for all ages. raffles, door prizes, 50-50 drawing, DJ Registration questions please call Rick @ 610-678-3948 or Fran @ 610-944-5515

Saturday July 8, 2023 7th Annual Centerport Fire Co Car Show, Craft Show & Antique Tractors Location: Central Berks Fire Co., 111 Callow Hill Street, Centerport, PA 19516. Time: 9 AM to 3 PM. Day of Show Price: \$15 per show car. Craft spaces \$10 each. Peoples choice & long distance awards. Music by Sound Factory. More info, call or email Kevin Miller at (484) 955-5631 or kmillersafety@yahoo.com

Sunday July 9, 2023. New Holland Antique Car Gas Engine & Tractor Show

Location: New Holland Community Memorial Part. Pre-registration required and due no later than Noon on Saturday July 8 to be a show participant. Registration forms and related instructions at https://tinyurl.com/ycknzu9t . Time: 9 AM to 4 PM. Live music, food, etc. Rain or shine. Many classes for stock and modified cars but no Corvair class.

✓ Sunday, 8/4/2023 – 8/6/2023 Das Awkscht Fescht Club Day

Location: Macungie Memorial Park, 50 N. Poplar Street, Macungie, PA 18062. Gates for cars open from 8 AM to 12 PM each day. All vehicles welcome on Friday. Factory stock cars on Saturday. Car club on Sunday. To show your car, you must pre-register no later than July 1. Price: \$20 per car per day. Sunday is Club Day and LVCC will be there. Meet us in Corvair Row! For registration forms visit https://awkscht.com/registration/

(Continued on page 8)



Calendar (Continued)

(Continued from page 7)

✓ Saturday August 12, 2023. First State Corvair Show

Location: Limestone Presbyterian Church, 3201 Limestone Rd, Wilmington, DE 19808. Time: 9 AM to 3 PM. This is an all-Corvair show sponsored by the First State Corvair Club, a chapter of the Corvair Society of America. For more info, contact Mike Slotwinski at 302-377-5268 or e-mail him at slinkyslot@verizon.net

Sunday August 13, 2023. Classics & Cruisers on Hamilton

Staging Location: America on Wheels Museum, 5 North Front Street, Allentown, PA. Time: 8 AM to 5 PM. Rain date: August 20. It's an all-day event. Rain Day of cruise price: \$25 per show car (Oy!) Cruise includes self-guided tour of AOW Museum, open house at RB Classic Car Restoration Collection, police escorted cruise to car show area, awards ceremony. Ends at "the Ritz" at 5 PM. Info: Lucinda Wright (610) 841-3506 or Asst. Chief Jim Gress (610) 439-5915.

✓ Sunday September 2, 2023 57th Annual Duryea Day Car Show & Museum Visit

Location: Boyertown Community Park, 419 South Madison Street, Boyertown, PA. 19512. Time: 9 AM to 3 PM. Day of show price: \$20 per show car. Flea market & vendor spaces available. Typically includes a free pass to the Boyertown Museum of Historic Vehicles. Contact: mail@boyertownmuseum.org or visit https://boyertownmuseum.org/duryea-day/

Saturday, September 2, 2023 Calvary Car Show

Location: Calvary Bible Fellowship Church, 4891 Penn Avenue, Sinking Spring, PA 19608. Time: 9 AM to 3 PM. Rain date: Monday, September 4, 2023 (Labor Day). Here's a deal you don't see every day: FREE vehicle registration, FREE refreshments for all attendees and FREE activities for children. Pre-registration not mandatory but highly suggested for planning purposes. Contact Will Lockhart, No later than August 31, Will@cbfc.net, or (610) 678-5166

✓ Saturday September 16, 2023 Central PA Corvair Club's Corvair Day

Location: EMMR - 100 Baltimore Rd (US 15) York Springs, PA. Time: 9 AM to 3 PM. Mark your calendars for this day as Corvair enthusiasts throughout the region converge at the Eastern Museum of Motor Racing (EMMR). The day is filled with lots of fun, food, friends, and prizes! Additional details will be posted at a later date. Contact: www.centralpacorvairclub.org

Saturday September 16, 2023 Clark's Corvair Show.

Location Clark's Corvair Parts, 400 Mohawk Trail, Shelburne Falls, MA. Time: 9 AM to 3 PM. Rain or shine. Entry Fee: Not listed. Help celebrate our 50th year! We will be giving tours of our machine shop and upholstery department. Cal will also be giving a presentation on the expansion of our complex over the last 50 years. There will be prizes given away every hour. We will also be offering a 10% discount for cash orders and a 5% discount for Credit card orders- Clark's will cover all sales tax for orders placed at the show. Pre-orders are welcome. For upholstery orders we ask that you order 2-3 weeks ahead as each order is custom made! We will have a food truck on site.

Saturday September 16, 2023. Twin Cities Car Show

Location: 106 N. Susquehanna Avenue, Shickshinny, PA 18655. Time: 12 PM – 5 PM. Rain date Sunday September 17. Day of Show Price: \$15 per show car. Spectators free. Trophies, music, dash plaques, food, 50/50, vendors, raffle baskets. Benefiting the Mocanaqua Volunteer Fire Company of Shickshinny-Mocanaqua. Contact (870) 447-8556.

Sunday September 17, 2023. 37th Annual Anthracite Region AACA Show

Location: Tri-County Little League Field, Corner of Grove & Hancock Streets, McAdoo, PA. Time: 8 AM to 3 PM. Rain or shine. Day of Show Price: \$15 per show car. Judged show. No Corvair class . For info, call Joe Forish (570) 929-2017 or visit www.araaca.com

Sunday October 1, 2023. 48th Annual Fall Meet of GM Cars

Location: Padre Pio Shrine, 111 Barto Road, Barto, PA 19504. Time: 8:30 AM to 4 PM. Day of Show Price: \$20 per show car. Rain or shine. Food, music, trophies, 50/50, door prizes, flea market. Portion of proceeds go to the American Cancer Society. Flea market space: \$20. For info, call Tom Wright (610) 587-3468 tommyjw22@yahoo.com or Sandy Kemp (610) 367-6664.

THE FIFTH WHEEL

Distributor Bushing Replacement By Mike Dawson

Many Corvair distributors go a lifetime needing only minor maintenance and sometimes breaker plate replacement. It has one upper bushing and the lower end of the shaft acts as a bearing within the rear housing, keeping the shaft running quite true. GM only supplied the housing with bushing installed

Two checks of the bushing while in the car would be to look at side play by trying to move the distributor cam across the shaft. If you note side play, be sure it is not between the cam and the shaft, which can wear if not lubricated. Another indication of a worn bushing is a small (or large) puddle of oil visible in the low part of the housing when you remove the breaker plate.

Note: If you remove the distributor, it will appear to have bushing play if you move the bottom of the shaft against the bushing, so check it while installed. The up and down play (0.050) against the three-piece thrust washer is also normal to allow the assembly to have running clearance with different housings and oil pumps.

If you determine you need a bushing, or are doing a complete distributor recondition, the following tips on bushing replacement may help. Tools you will need include the following: #4 and #6 roll pin punches, a homemade tool for pushing out the old bushing, and a hone to size the new bushing as all bushings that I have purchased recently are slightly oversize (which is good).

My pusher is a piece of $1/8" \ge 3/4"$ steel stock trimmed to fit between the ribs that surround the bushing as shown in the photo along with a homemade holding fixture for removing and installing pins, for which you can substitute a padded vice.



Also pictured is the minimum disassembly necessary to replace the bushing in a '62-'69 ('60-'61 will be similar). This would obviously be the time to also check and lube the advance mechanism.



File off any sharp edges at the two pinholes and polish the shaft before fitting the bushing. During reassembly remember the divot on the gear must align with the direction of the rotor notch.

LVCC Classified Ads

A&L Corvair Parts: <u>New Parts:</u> Brakes hoses, air filters, oil filters, tune-up parts, brake shoes, shocks, tail light lenses, gaskets, plugs, cables, choke pull offs, electrical switches, gas filters, caps, backup switches, suspension parts, engine bearings, valves, emblems, exhaust, turbo parts, patch panels, early bezels, head studs, 140 exhaust extractors, Y pipes, mufflers, fuzzies, clutch cables, lower bracket, heim joints, models, magazines, CORSA magazines, Hot Wheels, Racing Champions cars and much, much more. Contact Larry for pricing. <u>Used Parts:</u> Too many to list. Larry Asheuer Call 267-994-1569 or email: a-lcorvair@msn.com

Sky King Automotive Services: Now offering Corvair head work. Valve-seat grinding, Pro Flow grinding/ polishing, cleaning-cutting head gasket surfaces, de-flashing, thread repair. (I have measurement equip to confirm correct gasket surface depths). HV carb rebuilding. Top engine cover modifications for one gasket, no more leaks! Sound proofing interiors, gas tank replacements, as well as rear and front axle bearing units. Late rears in stock! Bob King kcorvair@ptd.net or text/call to 610-442-2873.

THE FIFTH WHEEL

JUNE 2023

We Meet Here!



Clark's Corvair Parts[®] Our 50th Anniversary - 2023



SPECIAL SALES EVERY MONTH- each month we'll send an email (if you have signed up) and list in a sale section on our Home page www.corvair.com FREE 50th MEMENTO gifts with your first order in 2023

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