



Newsletter of the Performance Corvair Group (PCG)

# CORVAIR RACER UPDATE

FEBRUARY 23, 2016

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ESTABLISHED 2007



## 2016 PERFORMANCE CORVAIR GROUP WORKSHOP!

Dates: Friday to Sunday, March 4-6, 2016.

Location: Kokomo Automotive Museum, 1500 N. Reed Road, Kokomo, IN, 765-454-9999

Hotel information: Kokomo Hampton Inn & Suites. 2920 South Reed Road, Kokomo.

Rates are \$104/night. 765-455-2900. Mention Corvair/PCG to ensure the group rate.

For more information, visit the Performance Corvair Group Facebook page, the Performance Corvair Group website at [www.corvair.org/chapters/pcg](http://www.corvair.org/chapters/pcg), or send an email to Tracy Leveque [libgan2004@yahoo.com](mailto:libgan2004@yahoo.com)

## FROM RICK NORRIS' CORVAIR ALLEY:

Report from the Roebing Road Driver's School, Saturday & Sunday Feb. 20, 21.

Barry Ellison and Jeff Rapp are now the proud owners of an SCCA Novice Competition driving permit!

It was almost déjà vu all over again at Roebing Road Raceway in Bloomingdale GA. Back in 2009 three of us Corvair types took a two day school to go racing and this past week end two more Corvair types did the same thing. We only lacked a couple of peo-

*Corvair Racer Update* is published by the Performance Corvair Group (PCG). We accept articles of interest to Corvair owners who are interested in extracting high performance from their classic Corvair cars and trucks. Classified advertising is available free of charge to all persons. Commercial advertising is also available on a fee basis. For details, email our club President. Email address shown in the Officers section on the back page of this newsletter.

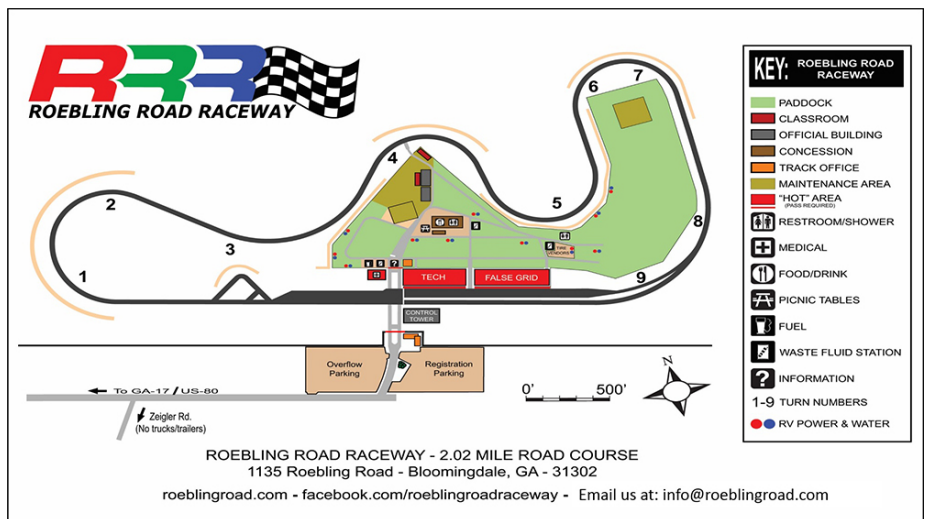
PCG is one of the many regional chapters of the Corvair Society of America (CORSA), a non-profit organization that was incorporated to satisfy the common needs of individuals interested in the preservation, restoration, and operation of the Chevrolet Corvair. Membership is free of charge. To join, please use the handy form on our website: [www.corvair.org/chapters/pcg](http://www.corvair.org/chapters/pcg).

ple to have the same crew on hand. Besides myself there was Barry Ellison who back in 2009 was a pit monkey but now a student driver, David Clemens also a student in 2009, Mike Levine, Chuck Sadek, Smitty Smith, Bob Coffin who instructed here in 2009 and again this week end. The missing were Dan Giannotti, Kevin Poe whose engine we borrowed so David Clemens could finish his school and Al Wicht. Jeff Rapp plus Michael and Tracy LeVeque were the newbies.

There were a few changes compared to the 2009 version. The event was still hosted by the Buccaneer Region of the SCCA but we were not allowed in until the opening of registration at 2:00 PM on Friday. Since Barry and I got there on Thursday afternoon thinking they would let us in but didn't had to "camp" outside the gate Thursday evening. Chuck Sadek, Smitty and Mike Levine also came. We decided we'd all have breakfast Friday morning at the Cracker Barrel in Pooler which we did. We spent the rest of the Friday morning sitting in the sun with the rest of the early birds shooting the breeze and waiting for registration to open.

Finally we were all signed in and set up our area for the duration. Actually the track folks let me drop the car and trailer on Thursday morning so we had our spot staked out which wouldn't have been a problem as they had a low turnout. Finally it was time to wheel the car to the tech shed with all Barry's safety gear and get the official sign off and sticker. This was interesting as I am no longer an SCCA member and my car has a current HSR log book and tech sticker. After battling it back and forth they finally decided they could accept my HSR log book and tech sticker. Everything after that was a go for the team.

Barry and Jeff had a long evening scheduled in the classroom from 5:30 to 9:30. Saturday was the usual driver and instructor meetings then out in the cars for some single file lead-follow laps before lunch. After lunch there were the 20 minute practice sessions with some flags thrown and pace car follow practice. After the last practice session for the day all the students and instructors met and that ended the day.



In the midst of all this the pit crew continued to chase the cut out problem my car has had since I ran it at the Savannah Speed Classic last fall. We tried several things and found some that made it worse but nothing actually cured it. Our plan was to just let it go as it was so Barry could make all his sessions.

However on Sunday they changed the schedule. Instead of duplicating Saturday's schedule they shortened everything and let them run the last sprint race early so it was all done shortly after lunch! All the paperwork was signed earlier and we had two new Corvaair racers!



After everyone packed up and left Barry, Bob Coffin and me spent Sunday night at the track and left after 7:00 AM when the gate was opened. All in all it was a great "guy's night out" for the week end as it were. It had been seven years since I was last at this track when the NECC had a time trial there. I love it!

On another note, while at Roebing Road the current owner of my old 66 V8 Vair who lives nearby brought the car to the track to meet me and let me see it again. Past experience with selling a car I owned and to see it later has not been good. I'm happy to report that after almost ten years it looked very good considering the number of owners and the distance traveled.



## **WORN/BROKEN PARTS**

Written by Andy Hollis from the Dec. 2015 issue OF Grassroots Motorsport Magazine

All of that setup work goes right out the window if the adjusters slip under load or the attachment points are oblong or cracked. Many of us are flogging older cars, and some of their parts may be far from new. As a result, it doesn't take much movement to deliver toe-out or positive camber during high-g corners. Sometimes this slip is even accompanied by an audible clunk or snapping sound.

SOLUTION: New factory adjusters installed with thread locking compound are cheap insurance. Paint marks can serve as indicators of movement. Plenty of other worn suspension parts cause handling headaches, too. We've wasted a whole day of skid pad testing because of a loose upper ball joint. Rock the wheel aggressively to check for this issue. Bad tie-rod ends can cause dynamic toe, as can worn internal steering rack parts.

Easily check these by rocking the steering wheel with the vehicle at rest. And bad wheel bearings will do weird stuff to camber, toe and even your brakes. Again, rock the wheel to check.

Finally, check those suspension bushings, especially if you've replaced them with after-market urethane or Delrin. Delrin units typically require yearly maintenance: Disassemble, clean and re-lube. If they aren't maintained, rust can creep in, causing bushing bind and a host of unusual handling behaviors. Consider using grease fittings.

MORE TIPS NEXT WEEK.

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## **Our Latest Update!**

### **THE PERFORMANCE CORVAIR WORKSHOP!**

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#### **WORKSHOP PRICING:**

25 pre-registration, \$30 at the door. Kids under 12 just \$10. The pre-registration will begin Feb. 1 and end on March 1.

#### **PRE-REGISTRATION / PRE-PAYMENT:**

To pre-register, use PayPal. Log onto PayPal and send your registration fee to PCG President Tracy Leveque at Libgan2004@yahoo.com. Be sure to designate your payment as a Donation or a Gift to prevent extra charges.

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Also, if you're pre-ordering a T-Shirt, state the size you need. T-Shirts are optional at extra cost and are not included in the Workshop registration fee. See T-Shirt prices and deadline directly below.

#### HOTEL INFO:

Hotel information: Kokomo Hampton Inn & Suites 2920 South Reed Road, Kokomo. Rates \$104/night. If you are traveling alone or do not wish to share a room, please book a king room. There are limited number of double beds. 765-455-2900 mention Corvair for discount. Reservations are under Performance Corvair Group

#### FRIDAY MARCH 4, 2016

Friday is early-arrival day.

**MORNING:** Unfortunately, the Chrysler transmission plant tour has been cancelled. We're working on a replacement.

**LUNCH ON YOUR OWN:** Kokomo is full of hometown pride restaurants. Listed below are a few of the favorites:

- Louie's Coney Island, 1700 East Hoffer, Kokomo
- Hacienda Mexican Restaurant, 2006 South Plate, Kokomo
- PASTAriffic Ristorante Italiano, 3001 South Webster, Kokomo
- Jami's Soda Fountain, 307 North Main, Kokomo
- Mike's Pizza, 4001 South Dixon, Kokomo

**AFTERNOON:** Still working on the afternoon schedule. Here are a few possibilities:

- Elwood Haynes Museum 1915 S. Webster, Kokomo. "America's First Car" was developed in 1894 by Elwood Haynes. The famous inventor's former residence now houses a collection of his possessions and inventions. A revolving exhibit of Haynes autos are on display in the garage and the industrial history of Kokomo is chronicled in additional exhibits.
- Seiberling Mansion 1200 W. Sycamore, Kokomo. Built in 1891 by industrialist Monroe Seiberling, the mansion features late-Victorian architecture, hand-carved woodwork, and multiple exhibits highlighting the history of Howard County.
- Old Ben - World's Largest Steer 1402 Defenbaugh St, Kokomo. Housed in a pavilion in Highland Park, Old Ben weighed over 4,000 pounds at his death in 1910.
- Grissom Reserve Base- Peru, Indiana. (where we went last year)
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**DINNER AT 6:00 PM:** Dinner at the Half Moon Restaurant & Brewery. 4051 South Lafountain St. Kokomo. Voted BEST IN KOKOMO. We have a private room reserved for 80. You MUST RSVP to Tracy by March 1 to ensure you have a table. They do have a large overflow area at the other end of the restaurant that can be used, but Tracy MUST know ahead of time to reserve it. The room is located to the immediate right after entering the

restaurant.

After dinner: Sycamore Room at the host hotel is available for us for bench racing, and videos (bring your thumb drives). You may have beer, (BYOB) but it MUST be in a non-alcohol container if taking it out of the room as alcohol is not allowed in the hotel lobby.

### SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 2016

Saturday is Workshop Day at the Kokomo Automotive Museum.

7: 30 am: Vendor set up.

8:00-9: 00 am: Registration/self-guided tour of museum/donuts/coffee/juice/pop. Vendor area will open at 8:30 am. Please give the guys time to set up.

We will be having 2 featured cars.....info to follow.....

We will post exact Saturday schedule when the time gets closer.

### SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 2016

No events are currently planned for Sunday. Travel day back home.

### **PERFORMANCE CORVAIR GROUP FACEBOOK PAGE:**

You can join the Performance Corvair Group on Facebook. Visit this page on your web browser:

<https://www.facebook.com/performancecorvairgroupworkshop2015/>

When you get there, enter a request to be added to the group. The page is administered by Ned Madsen, VP of PCG!

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### ***PCG Club Officers:***

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