

Newsletter of the Performance Corvair Group (PCG)

CORVAIR RACER UPDATE

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CORVAIR ALLEY NEWS, by Rick Norris



Well, here it is almost the New Year and this is my 59th and last issue of this little paper for 2016. I certainly never intended to be doing this every week nor for this long a period but here I am, thinking about what the New Year may bring in terms of vintage motorsport for us Corvair racers and the fans. Do we have any groupies? And if so, why? I don't think my wife would let them hang around although I'm sure they would all be card carrying AARP members! Too old to boogie and too young to not try I say.

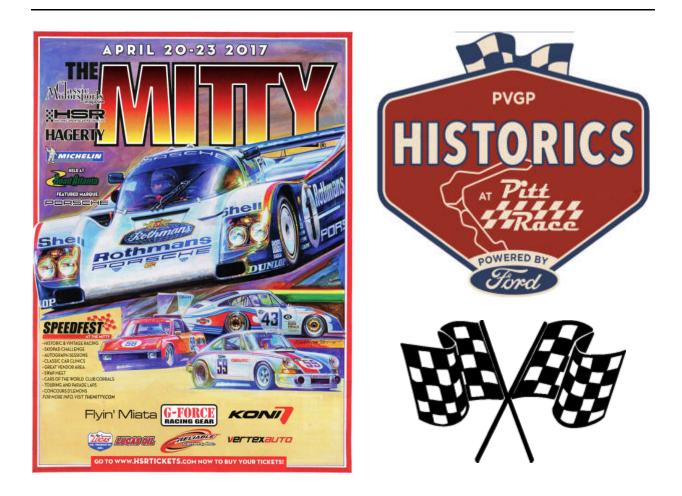
It will be next to impossible to beat the Road America event as that will remain a high point for a long time but in number of participants our high water mark is still the 2012 Mitty at Road Atlanta. If you remember we actually had 15 race cars in our paddock but unfortunate for AI Wicht he could not get his car going. On track we still had 14 cars all of whom turned some laps. The crowd was fantastic and quite a few Corvair fans made the effort to attend and stop by our compound if for nothing more than to marvel at the number of engine changes, one of which was me. The scene in our paddock looked like a Chinese fire drill for a while. One of the things I remember most was racing side by side for the first time with another Corvair which was driven by Bob Storc. We had a ball at the back of the pack as we both had weak backup engines. It proves you don't have to be fast to have fun.

There are many high lights and great memories over the past eight years since I began vintage road racing my Corvairs in 2009. Each year I think it just couldn't get any better but somehow it does. I have been fortunate to be able at this point in my life to realize my longtime dream of racing a Corvair, especially one I built myself. Years before while raising a family I lived vicariously through the racing exploits of the folks actually doing battle in the ranks of the SCCA back

when Don Yenko created the Stinger to legally run in D Production which is where the SCCA put the Stinger, not where he thought it should be. There were a lot of great names both large and small wheeling those cars all over the country and in some venues that are long gone. I soaked up every word and picture I could find supporting my dream. I envied the guys and gals who were out there doing it. I have now been on the track with more than a few of those "old" drivers and count them among my friends. As we grow older we come to realize it is not always about the cars. They are the reason we all gather in one spot several times a year but it becomes more about the enjoyment of spending some quality time with our extended family of friends.



Here's wishing everyone a Happy New Year and a safe and fun racing season for 2017!



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: <u>www.corvair.org/chapters/pcg</u>.

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