

Tech Words from the CORSA Convention

As we approached the hotel here in Portland for the convention of course there were Corvairs all over the parking lot as you'd expect. But, there was one thing that I saw as notable, there were more FC's than I'd expected. This goes to show that FC's are becoming more popular to collectors than they used to be. They're catching on. Being a real fan of the FC's, I'm very glad to see this. I think the FC is even a more unusual than the Corvair cars. One of the big advantages of the FC for the mechanic is they are easier to work on. There is just more space in and under the FC than the cars.

There was a very nice selection of Corvairs. in general, in the show and the many others in the parking lot. There were a lot of cars from Canada which we don't usually have the opportunity to see. The swap meet was very small but offered some very nice items. The indoor vendor area was well done with most of the expected Corvair vendors there with their wares. There was a notable offering from CIDCO-1 (Corvair, Improvement Distributing Co.). He offers new internal parts for the 4 speed transmission and the differential. There have been some parts that were difficult if not impossible to get for the trans/axle. Now they can be restored without having to resort to questionable used parts. They are not inexpensive and are of very high quality.

I attended several Tech sessions and picked up some new information and good ideas on building and maintaining Corvairs. One session was on Electronic Fuel Injection (EFI) that was mind boggling. It will cost you about \$2,000 for the system and another \$1,000 to install it and calibrate it. The advantage of EFI is drastically reduced tail pipe emissions and a fuel economy improvement of about 20 percent. I'm wondering if the fuel cost savings is worth the costs of the system. You also get a horsepower increase so those of you that want maximum power may be interested. There was a new vender there with an electric engine cooling system that seems to have solved the problems of cooling the engine at highway speeds in hot weather. The company is Vairhouse located in Reno, NV and the complete system sells for \$670. The heart of the system is an electric fan made in Italy that puts out a very high air flow and can actually create some pressure on top of the cylinders and heads. Rusty's on line offers a complete air conditioning system made up of after market parts to fit any Corvair.

For those of you that could not attend, you missed a good time and some very interesting tech sessions.