

THE VAIR STREET JOURNAL

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA CORVAIR CLUB

DECEMBER, 1984

The Night Before Christmas

by C. Frederic Doriot Jr.

(with apologies to Clement Moore)

WAS the night before Christmas, and all thru the valley,
Not a sports car was stirring, not even a Ferrari;
The stockings were hung on garage door with care,
In hopes that "Hot Nick" soon would be there.

The Kiddies were nestled all snug in their beds,
While Alfas and Jaguars raced in their heads;
And Mom in her goggles, and I in beret,

Had just tucked the Allard in, then bit the bay;
When out on the road there arose such a clatter,
I sprang from my bed to see what was the matter.

Expecting to see a Mercedes roar by,
We raced to the window, my dear wife and I.

The moon on the chrome of her "Baby Lago",
Gave the brightness of noonday to objects below.

When what should my wondering eyes betray,
But eight tiny MGs pulling a sleigh,

With a small "hero driver" so steady and quick,
I knew in a moment it must be "Hot Nick"!

More rapid than Grand Prix his little fleet came,
And he poured on the coal as he called them by name;

"Now K.A., now P.B., now K.N. and T.D.,
On V.A., on T.F., on N.A. and T.C.;

To the top of the turn, keep away from the wall,
Now dash away, dig out, change cogs all!"

Like Ascari and Fangio fighting a duel,
They broadsided the driveway and turned on the fuel;

Up to the garage where they braked to a stop,
The sleigh full of goodies with Santa on top.

(continued inside back cover)

THE WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA CORVAIR CLUB WANTS YOU!!
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

That sure is a great little car you're driving. In fact the Corvaire is probably the most courageous, creative, and potentially the best engineered automobile to come out of Detroit in modern times. As you may already know, a two year study conducted by the U.S. Dept. of Transportation, and suggested by Mr. Ralph Nader, concluded: "The Corvaire quantitatively meets or exceeds standards set by contemporary automobiles in stability, cornering, and roll-over tests." It is also the only car ever proven safe in a court of law!!!

Next time a fellow Corvaire driver waves to you, hold your head high and wave back, since you have something in common. "The Vair" however, is far from a common car. They are now quite rare, gaining in value, and have so many sensible features when compared to today's plastic and cardboard cars. Isn't it great not spending money on antifreeze and snow tires for example!

We are a chartered chapter of "The Corvaire Society of America" (CORSA), a rapidly growing international organization now boasting over 8,000 members. Like all automobile marque clubs of international stature, CORSA requires all chapter members to also belong to CORSA, the international Corvaire club.

The long range goals of both clubs is simply to increase the enjoyment and preservation of the Corvaire automobile. We provide - technical and historic information, parts procurement, professional publications, and an international classified ad service. We sponsor and participate in - Corvaire shows, rallies, time trials, autocross events, mini conventions, and national conventions. We love driving to local points of interest, touring style, in Corvaire convoys. We have parties, picnics, and dinners, there's always plenty of Corvaire talk, and all of our events are family affairs. Our membership includes people from every imaginable age group, background, and profession. Our chapter provides a twelve page monthly newsletter, and CORSA provides a beautiful monthly magazine named "The CORSA Communiciques".

We would love to welcome you, your family, and your Corvaire into our club. Simply complete the attached application and mail it to Al Friend, WPCC Liaison. Remember, the nicest people drive Corvaire, and "You're Always Ahead With Your Engine Behind." Hope to see you soon.

MEETINGS: The 4th Tuesday of every month, 8 p.m. at the Good Shephard Lutheran Church, Monroeville, Pennsylvania

DUES: LOCAL \$10 per calendar year or \$1 for each remaining month of the current year. \$1 each for two additional immediate family members. Payable to WPCC.

CORSA Our charter requires that all WPCC members, also belong to CORSA, our national organization. New members must enclose a completed CORSA application and a check payable to CORSA, Inc. for \$22. If you already belong to CORSA, then send only WPCC information.

MAIL TO: W.P.C.C./o Al Friend, 3677 Forbes Trail Dr. Murrysville, PA 15668 (412)325-2588

NAME _____ AGE _____ OCCUPATION _____ PHONE _____
 ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____ DATE _____
 CORSA MEMBER? YES NO CORVAIRES OWNED, YR.: MODEL _____
 RECOMMENDED BY _____ AMOUNT PAID _____ OTHER CAR CLUBS _____
 OTHER INFORMATION: _____

YEAR-END NEWS AND VIEWS

Herb Horn, Bob Ashworth and Dale Smith, the Nominating Committee, have submitted these names for 1985 officers:

- President Bob McCune
- Vice President Bill Brill
- Secretary Gayle Gundlach
- Treasurer John Gundlach

Remember that the election will be the big event of the January meeting on the 22nd. Nominations from the floor will be accepted.

* * *

Some people have so much money in their pockets that \$2.73 in change just isn't worth bothering about, but to C.A. Hobert of Coiner's Department Store the WPCC members shopping there while on the tour of White Post was a matter of honor. He sent a check that eventually was delivered to Herb Horn who was the one who dashed off without it. The key to locating him was the recollection by the clerk who remembered the fact that the man had bought shoelaces.

* * *

Wayne Jones needs someone to do leg work on the Kenneywood "affordable event." Friend and Horn agreed to lead the activity, but in the light of the inspirational remarks made by Hamlin a batch of volunteers are in order.

* * *

Classic looks, music and period all are generic terms, but classic cars are something specific. Therefore, PennDOT is about to drop the classic plate (after they enforce the existing rules for a while) and will substitute an automotively appropriate thing like "historic" or "special interest." Really a good thing-- keeps the klutzes in check.

Our legislature is protecting us from foreign vendors again. There is a bill to require anyone from outside PA to buy a one-time permit for \$500 before allowing them to have a stall at Hershey or a WPCC flea market. Who wants to buy used old parts anyway? If you write, they may not pass the dumb thing.

SCHENLEY PARK VINTAGE AUTO RACE

You may remember that our WPCC furnished some people to plan the Antique Car Show and park the cars on the lawn of Frick Fine Arts Building last August 25 and 26.

We now have an exceptional video tape which covers the event. The finest automobiles in Pittsburgh and surrounding area are shown along with their owners. It is estimated that this group of automobiles would be worth over 5 million dollars if a price were to be placed on them.

The tape will be shown at the February meeting. Don't miss it since it may never be available again.

Looking ahead, WPCC will once again be invited to take part in the planning and arrangement of these fine cars in August.

MORE ON THERMOSTATS

by Bill Artzberger

For those of you not yet convinced of the need of operating thermostats for your engine vent doors, here are some more reasons.

With cold weather here, your vent doors are remaining open because of malfunctioning thermostats. First, your engine will take a long time to warm up to operating temperature. While it is cold and you are racing to try to warm it up, water from condensation and contaminants are forming and waiting to begin etching the metal parts of the engine interior. Next, your heater is not working up to par with the warm air generated being blown out the opened vent doors.

To defeat your winter time vent door problems, it would be best to block them closed. This is

a good solution IF you remember that they are closed. While idling in traffic they may need to be opened. If your oil temperature goes beyond 280°, the lubrication abilities drop dramatically, and your oil pressure drops to the danger point.

Thermostats are available for about \$30 per pair. They make life with your Corvair a lot easier!

THE HOLIDAY PARTY by Al Friend

Archie, Alice, & Jill Miller planned a superb year ending get together. Over forty members journeyed through the frosty mountains to Indian Head and the famous Valley Inn. Isadore, Shirley, & Al Krouse made the long trip from New Bethlehem, and for those who missed the party - Isadore is looking real good, and lean & mean too!!

Two roaring fires and lots of delicious snacks and drinks greeted us. Most of us left room for the tremendous home style chicken & roast beef dinner. Those mountain gals sure can cook!!

As is our tradition, \$50 was collected for the annual Children's Hospital Fund Drive. \$25 was added from the treasury for a grand total of \$75. Terri Stankus did the honors Monday morning and got in a few plugs for the Corvair on KDKA Radio.

After the feast, Archie made a few announcements, including the winner of the prestigious Member of the Year Award: A N D the winner I S ... Herb Horn. Everyone was very happy for Herb & Gay, but we were saddened to hear that they would be leaving Pittsburgh in March. Herb's engineering firm will be reassigning him to a new project. Herb said that he and Gay will never forget their years here in The Burg or WPCC. Well you two, thanks for your years of hard work for WPCC, your enthusiasm has always been contagious, and rest assured that we will never forget you. Good luck on that next assignment, and plan on visiting us often in that "OVER OPTIONED" van!!!!

The gift exchange was done differently this year, and turned out to be a lot of fun. We first picked numbers, then, in order, came up and opened

a gift for all to see. Then you could either keep that gift or exchange it for any previous gift opened. The only rule was: No Fighting!!! A bottle of V.O. and a bottle of wine, for some reason, changed hands frequently! Also, a little ceramic bell was popular?? (Oh well, I'll never understand women I guess)!!

From all of the members:

Thank you Archie & Alice, your officers, and board, for a great final event and an even greater year.

NEW MEMBERS

Sharyn Koch, Johnstown (814)535-8551.

Sharyn is a 30 year old medical technician who owns a 63 Monza convertible. She was recommended to us by the folks at CORSA. Welcome aboard Sharyn, and hope to see that convertible when the snow goes away.

FOR SALE

28 CORVAIRS: 66 Corsa conv, turbocharged, 180 hp, wood-telesopic, Konia, \$4,100; 65 Monza w/ Kelmark V8 mid-engine conversion (no motor), \$1,000; 66 Corsa, factory a/c, 140 hp, int, \$1,475; 69 Monza conv, 140 hp, automatic, \$1,875; 66 Monza, factory a/c, 140 hp, automatic, \$1,325; 69 Monza, 140 hp, 4-spd, posi, tint, Eico, \$1,325; 66 Yenko Stinger, YS-25, 3.89 posi, quick box, Stage I, \$1,800; 66 Corsa conv, needs restoration, \$875; 66 Corsa conv, no drivetrain, \$425; 66 Monza w/ Crown 327 V8 conversion, 27K, factory a/c, telesopic, \$1,900; 66 Monza conv, 140 hp, automatic, \$900; Monza conv, 140 hp, automatic, \$900; 65 Corsa Solar Cavalier, Fitch roof, ram induction, power brakes, \$1,875; 61 loadside pickup, 3-spd, \$1,000; 65 Monza conv, 140 hp, automatic, \$650; 64 Meyers Manx race dune buggy, Crown conversion, 140 hp, by Bill Thomas, \$1,630; Avenger (T), 140 hp, \$1,900; 65 Corsa race car, SCCA Solo II, nationally competitive, \$10,000 invested, \$4,500; 68 Monza conv, AM-FM, wood-telesopic, 4-spd, \$2,900; 72 VW camper, 140 hp, Trans-wair-Saginaw 4-spd, \$1,600; mid-engine framed Corvaair, Helm rear suspension, Porsche disc front, \$825; 66 Corsa, AM-FM multiples, \$900; 68 Monza conv, 140 hp, 4-spd, tint, \$950; 67 Monza, 140 hp, 4-spd, posi, many hi-perf parts, \$1,275; 65 Corsa conv, \$950; 63 Greenbrier, 140 hp, 4-spd, \$1,100; 64 van, 140 hp, automatic, \$950; PH: 212-245-5521, NY.

PLEASE REMOVE THE CENTERFOLD--A LISTING OF ALL MEMBERS OF WPCC. ADDITIONAL "FOR SALE" ITEMS ON PAGE 5.

FOR SALE

'67 auto sedan, A title, yellow/black. Recently redone. \$1300. Paul Scialabba, 13⁵ Orchard Place (Mt. Oliver) 412-381-0151.

FOR SALE

1966 Monza Convertible, 4-speed. Red with black top and interior. \$1995 or best offer. 833-7484.

FOR SALE

'65 convertible, new top, new paint, 110 'PG. VG.
'66 convertible, manual top, 140/4 sp. VG.
'66 4-door, poor condition, mostly for parts.

NEED: good driver side door for '67 4-door. John Sebbens, 751-7771.

FOR SALE

KELMARK V-8 mid-engine conversion in very good '65 Monza Coupe. 350 HP Corvette engine. 14" aluminum wheels with new radial tires. Corsa dash, high back seats. Runs and drives but everything needs detailed. It has never been completely finished. Have other interests. Will sell for \$2000. Bill Artzberger

CORVAIR...A HISTORY AND RESTORATION GUIDE. By Bill Artzberger. I still have a few copies left. If you want to know how to transform a \$500 Corvaire into a \$5000 Concours winner, spend \$20 and read this book. See Bill at next meeting or have one mailed to you. 364-6842.

*The sleigh was aluminum—Ghia design;
In "British Racing Green" it really looked fine.
The badge-bar up front stood out clear and bold,
The collection of badges a sight to behold.*

*He was all dressed up in Italian "Race Red",
From the tip of his toes to the top of his head;
A bundle of speed parts he had on his back,
And he chuckled with glee as he opened his pack.*

*His eyes, how they sparkled, like a spinning Rudge wheel,
His beard was the silver of machine-tooled steel;
With a little round face and a chubby waist line,
That shook when he laughed like that Bugatti of mine.*

*He started his task without saying a word,
The idling exhausts were all that was heard.
Wire wheels for junior, to fit his T.D.,
Hood-strap and windscreens for Allard and Me,*

*A can of paint, marked, "French Racing Bleu",
Castrol, a blower, and dual carbs too;
The last thing he left was the best that could be,
A year's "Road and Track" for the family and me.*

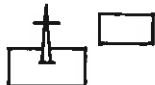
*He jumped to the sleigh and gave his commands,
Then away they all flew like the start at Le Mans,
And I heard him exclaim as he quickened the pace,
"Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good race!"*



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Western PA. Corvaair Club
3677 Forbes Trail Dr.
Murrysville, PA 15668

MEETING HELD
4TH TUESDAY
EACH MONTH
8:00 P.M.

GOOD SHEPHERD
LUTHERAN
CHURCH



OLD WM. PENN HWY.

SCHOOL



RT. 48

PGH.

PARKWAY BY-PASS

MONROEVILLE
EXIT

MURRYSVILLE

BUICK

PLUM EXIT

PGH.

BUS. RT. 22

MURRYSVILLE

HOWARD
JOHNSON'S

TURNPIKE
EXIT