

VAIR STREET JOURNAL

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA CORVAIR CLUB

AUG/SEP 2004

The Prez Sez

Hopefully, everyone has had a wonderful summer! Mine has been extremely busy attending events of all sorts, working on my house and for once having all my cars working flawlessly. Knock on wood for that last one.

Since the last Prez Sez, the club has gone to Altoona, PA to visit the Rail Road Museum and to Indian Caverns.

Our small caravan made up of Tim and Michelle Desmond and family, Pat Greenwald and I, drove through some rather substantial fog on our way to Altoona. The day on the whole was pleasant but cool.

On our way, we made a couple of impromptu stops, one at the Boyer Candy Company outlet store and other at Horse Shoe Curve.

At the end of August the North Eastern Corvaair Council arrived in Cranberry, PA for a show with tech sessions and time trails at BeaveRun the next day. First, I want to thank all the club members who came to cheer, help with the events and make the visitors feel welcomed.

I decided that I would give the time trails a try, as I have never been on a road course before. Due to regulations requiring a roll bar my 1966 Corsa convertible was not an option, so I took my Monza coupe with the 110 automatic. The day started off with monsoon rains (see pictures) that allowed only a couple of laps before the track was



The Prez brings his 110 Monza Coupe around a very wet curve at Beaver Run

closed until about noon. This made for some interesting conversations in the pits. Once the rain subsided it was time to hit the track and have some fun sliding around the corners. In the end this turned out to be a bad day for the non-Corvaair cars, as three of them managed to find the wall. A Formula type racing car and a brand new

2004 Pontiac Sunfire, with only 700 miles on the odometer, were severely damaged.

The only Corvaair casualty happened in of all places, the parking lot. An unlucky Corvaair owner's wife backed her (non-Corvaair) car into his Corvaair's door in front of several bystanders.

All in all most everyone had a good time in the rain and no one was hurt. At the end of the day Warren LeVeque gave out his Tweety awards. I received a small Tweety for Pure Stock. Maybe next time I'll win the 3 foot tall Top Tweety for fastest time of the day. Well, one can

only dream!

Now for some upcoming events. On September 28 at Hoss's in Murrysville we'll have our next meeting. John Gundlach is coordinator for a Fall Foliage Tour on October 2.

Have fun Corvaairing.
Stephen Puskas
President, WPPC



The Prez waits for a word from Donna Mae Mimms who scans the rain slick course. If this image was in full-color it would reveal Donna Mae's pink gloves.

PHOTO BY ACTION PHOTOS

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Pat Greenwald, a Winner, Always!



PHOTO BY ERIC GREENWALD

Congratulations, Pat!

The day that started out wet and dreary took a turn for the better as parade time approached. So I called my son, Kurt, and we each drove a car to the Penn Hills Memorial Day Parade. The red '64 convertible was awarded the 1st place trophy and the black '65 coupe took 2nd. Nothing like a little red convertible for a parade.—Pat Greenwald

Another winner



PHOTO BY DON BAKER

Suzanne Heatherington

Congratulations to our very own Suzanne Heatherington, who is the recipient of a Dominion Foundation VITA (Volunteer in the Arts) Award for her work with the McKeesport Symphony Orchestra (MSO). Among other things, Suzanne is the MSO Board Secretary and maintains their web pages. Once again, Congratulations to a very busy lady.

Minutes of the July 27, 2004 WPCC Member Meeting

Officers Present:

- President, Steve Puskas
- Vice President, John Gundlach
- Secretary, Pat Greenwald

Board members present:

- Don Cekus
- Tim Desmond
- Bob Hieber
- Les Walter.

The meeting was called to order by President Steve Puskas.

The minutes of the May 25th meeting were accepted as printed in the *Vair Street Journal*. There was no treasurer's report.

Don Cekus reported on last month's Corsa convention. Twenty-one from our club attended and had a great time. The food and autocross were rated the best ever and the location, within walking distance of almost everything, made for a very nice week. And, as evident in the last *Communique*, the club

members did very well in the competition.

The June trip to Jennerstown was reported in the last newsletter.

Steve had trouble getting information about the Hot Air Balloon event in New Castle until it was too late to set anything up for the club to participate. We can try again next year.

Jim Heatherington announced that the Model A club was going to Ohio this weekend. Anyone interested in joining them should call Jim for details.

Steve has changed the Penn's Cave event to a day trip on August 14th. Information will be mailed to members.

Don encouraged members to consider the 2004 Corvair Days event near Gettysburg. A registration form was included with the last newsletter.

Don Baker discussed the BeaveRun Time Trials on August 29-30. Information is in the *Communique*.

John Gundlach reported that he is still working out the details for the October 2-3 Autumn Leaf Tour. Included in the trip will be the Kinzua Dam, Zippo lighter factory, world's 1st Christmas Shop, PA Grand Canyon, and a possible elk viewing.

Les still had jackets and shirts to distribute. He is still taking orders for shirts. He may have tee shirts available soon.

Bob Hieber had information about a cruise on Wednesday, August 4th where the Corvair will be the featured car. The location is 2957 Banksville Rd. from 6:00-10:00. Another cruise is being held at Independence Court in Mt. Lebanon on September 11th. Hours are from 11:00 – 2:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Greenwald
Pat Greenwald, secretary

PVGP Report

Thanks to Bill Artzberger for this article and photographs

Hello gang. Bill Artzberger reporting for the PVGP. Well, it got off very well again and by the time you read this, plans are being made for the 23rd year!

As you know there were two weekends of high style vintage car racing. The first was implemented at the BeaveRun Facility at Koppel/Wampum. All of the "Big Heavys" smoked their tires both days of the weekend. The cars included a lone Yenko Stinger from Fredericksburg, VA. We should have expected that the owner/driver, Chuck Sadek, would do well...and he did!, never finishing less than second against the Jaguars, Lotus', MG's, Porsches, etc.

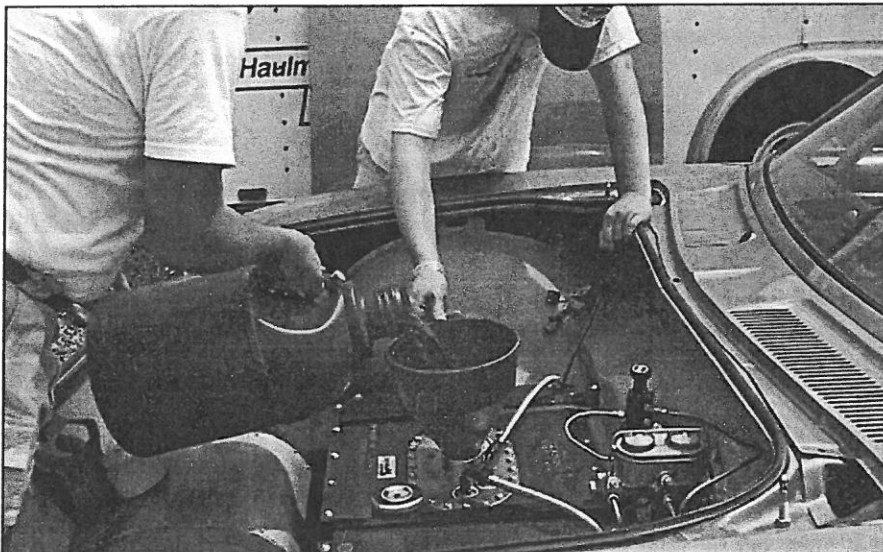
Of course the question was asked, "how fast did you go down the rear straight-away?" If he could reach 7,000 RPM, his speed would be 130—132 MPH, was his reply. He didn't admit to 7,000 RPM, but said he was close! He also reported that he had no trouble making up time in the turns but some of the Jaguars were hard to pass on three straight-aways. I was hoping to get a hi-speed ride with him but there was no passenger seat and the SCCA rules don't allow it.

However Don Baker defected from our Corvair brotherhood and managed to get one lap around the 1.53 mile North Circuit in a Ford GT40, no less! He was a little shaky when he reported seeing the speedo at 142.

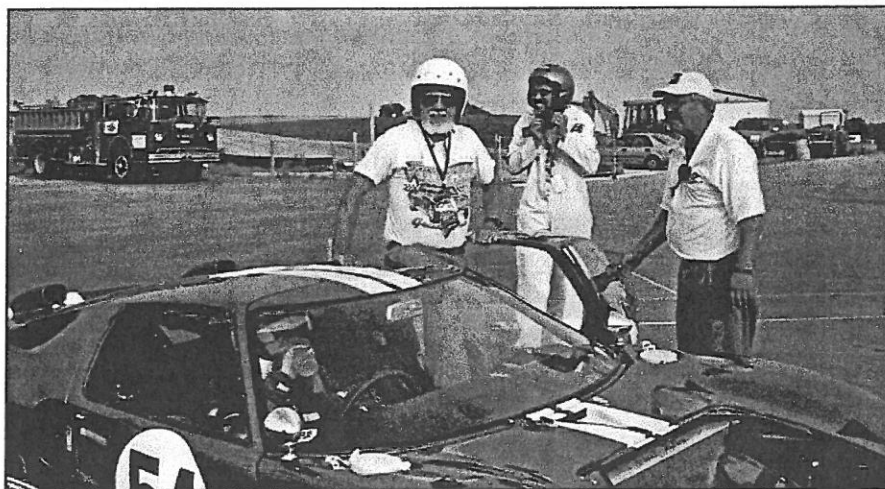
I was third in line for my chance of a lifetime in a GT40. As fortune would have it, the car owner/driver reported that he was low on fuel and had to change tires for his Sunday racing. Perhaps we'll have better luck next year. Until then, ask Don "Hi-Speed" Baker about the GT40 ride.



The Yenko Stinger (Number 73 – center of the picture) on the starting grid at BeaveRun PVGP, July 10, 2004. Note the competition! And he finished 2nd!!!



A little extra weight up front of the Stinger is sometimes needed.



Don Baker about to take a ride in a GT40 Ford.

Hands Off!

Some thoughts from Bill Artzberger

I enjoyed reading about Earl Goehring's fateful trip to the Corvair National Convention (June/July 2004 Vair Street Journal). I certainly sympathized with him and



PHOTO BY DON BAKER

Bill Artzberger

all the others concerned. All of us who read the account are happy that his problem was eventually solved.

However I would like to expose myself to criticism to some of our faithful club members and say that we all should learn a lesson from this episode.

I have owned various Corvairs since 1961. A Corvair is the automobile that I drove the most miles of any of the other numerous cars that I have owned (seventy-two up to the present date!) That first Corvair was a 1962 Greenbrier Van. It was a used car with only 2500 miles on the odometer (a trade-in at Parker Chevrolet, Bellvue.) I owned and used the van as a daily driver for nearly five years. It registered 97,000 miles when I rolled it. As the story unwinds the only necessary parts that were ever replaced were the bushings for the shifting rod and the emergency brake cable. Yes, I replaced the ignition points in favor of a set of "ventilated" points that were popular at the time. And, yes, I changed the fan belt for no other reason than I was leaving for another trip to Florida and as a precaution I changed the belt. The original resigned itself to a "spare".

(Note: You must use a "High-cord" or "wrapped" belt...none other will last!)

The point I'm trying to relay to you is that it is not necessary to add or change anything to or in your Corvair. It is adequate and complete exactly as it is.

You must remember that Ed Cole (later named the General Manager of Chevy Division) was the key designer of the Corvair and its engine. He also contributed to the Cadillac army tank engine, the Franklin and Continental Aircraft Engines and even the Tucker engine in its infancy. He armed himself with the best automotive engineers available at the time. They created our Corvairs. There is no point in our trying to re-invent the wheel. It's been done for us.

Certainly, you can modify the Corvair engine to turn more RPMs. This was designed into the engine. But to what end? The price to pay will be increased wear and shortened engine life. But it will help decrease the time it takes you to travel from stop light to stop light! And, of course increase your brake lining and tire wear.

So, my good Corvair friends, take some friendly advice from a seasoned Corvair owner, HANDS OFF...Keep your engine clean and lubricated. It will last as long as you will, without any modifications.

Bill Artzberger

FOR SALE

1969 Corvair Convertible
Good body and running gear
110/automatic
Fair Paint
Good Interior (black)
Red body
Seals about two years ago
Call Bill Artzberger
412-364-6842

Making time?!

Can it be September already? I can't remember June, July and August. Did I somehow miss them? Perhaps I'm losing it, but I hope not. Have I had my Corvair out as much as I'd hoped I would? Probably not, but I did turn over a 100,000 miles. Have I put the new rear shocks on that I bought at the National Convention in Lexington, Kentucky this year? Not yet. But I did get the new carpeting (bought at last year's Carlisle National Convention) into the car for Old Fashion Days at Idlewild Park this year. Is that progress? Not a whole lot.

It seems the world is moving so fast around me. Besides working at a job five days a week, there are at least ten other projects that I'm doing. But I can't find time for my Corvair. A pretty sorry situation. Can I make some predictions?

How's this? I'll not make it to the Convention next summer, but I do hope to be in Buffalo in 2006. And by golly I will have those shocks on by then, along with new paint on the engine shrouds and a console that I plan to build. Will there be other improvements? Will I drive it more often? The answer will be yes and yes.

Are you making time for your Corvair?

Luke

WPCC Current Roster of Members

	NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	e-mail
1	Adamson, Richard & Doris	78 Garden Drive, Turtle Creek, PA 15145	412-372-3452	
2	Artzberger, Bill & Irene	305 Golf Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15229	412-364-6842	
3	Artzberger, Jim & Sandy	1300 Cattail Lane, Sewickley, PA 15143	412-749-1432	
4	Baker, Don & Joanne	12461 Larimer Avenue, North Huntingdon, PA 15642	724-863-3770	
5	John A. Bachman	402 Elfinwild Lane, Glenshaw, PA 15116	412-486-2478	
6	Brill, Bill & Jean	502 Kenmore Avenue, Greensburg, PA 15601	724-837-5082	
7	Buccigrossi, Emerick & Letty	1502 Fernledge Drive, Allison Park, PA 15101	412-486-7691	emandletty@msn.com
8	Capozzoli, John & Carol	3830 Washington Pike, Bridgeville, PA 15017	724-745-1207 cell 412-583-4137	
9	Castoldi, Donald	301 Butler Avenue, Avonmore, PA 15618	724-697-4153	
10	Cekus, Don & Mary Ellen	286 Hillcrest Circle, Pittsburgh, PA 15237	412-364-8224	corsa1@att.net
11	Clapper, Ed & Wendy	158 Ridge Road, Aliquippa, PA 15001	724-375-1461	
12	Constantino, John & Clare	305 3rd Street, Freeport, PA 16229-1141	724-295-2675	
13	Dandois, Dick & Marie	11844 Route 286 Hwy W., Homer City, PA 15748-7803	724-726-5606	dindy2@earthlink.net
14	Desmond, Tim & Michelle	107 Hivue Lane, Pittsburgh, PA 15237	412-761-3926	
15	DiMartino, Alfred & Rose	72 Stratford Drive, Irwin, PA 15642	724-863-0985	
16	Falcettoni, Willa	1554 Butler Plank Road, Glenshaw, PA 15116	412-486-4638	
17	Friend, Al & Carole	6000 Great Oaks Drive, Export, PA 15632	724-325-2588 W 888-311-4183	afriend@pclient.ml.com
18	Greenwald, Pat	415 Crestview Drive, Plum, PA 15239	412-795-5719	pggreen233@netzero.com
19	Goehring, Earl & Diane	140 Whitestown Road, Harmony, PA 16037	724-452-8823	
20	Gundlach, John & Gayle	228, McKay Road, Saxonburg, PA 16056	724-352-4205	
21	Hackl, George & Marlene	420, Hulton Road, New Kensington, PA 15068	724-224-2482	
22	Hamlin, Vaun & Charlotte	2207 Arbor Glen Court, Sun City Center, FL 33573	813-633-6684	hamlinchar@aol.com
23	Heatherington, Jim & Suzanne	128 Sharp Road, White Oak, PA 15131	412-672-0914	suzanne@heatherington.com
24	Hieber, Bob & Donna	1679 Brodhead Road, RR3, Moon Twp, PA 15108	724-457-9712	bhieber@processengineering.com
25	Huber, Ed & Ann Marie	910 Glenwood Court, Cranberry Twp., PA 16066		
26	Hughes, Roger & Cheryl	170 Winters Road, Butler, PA 16002	724-285-1241	
27	Jones, Judy	3205 Bel Air Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15227	412-882-2109	wandjones@aol.com
28	Kreisel, Curt & Elana	1141 Sunrise Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15243		
29	Lamolinare, Patrick & Patricia	103 Jacobs Street, Pittsburgh, Pa 15234	412-885-1511	
30	Lane, Robert & Ella	259 Lutz Road, Zelienople, PA 16063	724-452-0540	ellie@zbzoom.net
31	Lucas, Charles & Sarah	236 W. Marigold Street, Munhall, PA 15120	412-462-6735	chasjlucas@aol.com
32	Morgan, Robert & Margaret	344 Ridge Road, New Brighton, PA 15066	724-846-6040	
33	Mc Donald, Paul & Joyce	285 Evans City Road, Butler, PA 16001-2711	724-287-5671	
34	Schifano, Charlie & Connie	223 Blackridge Drive, Greensburg, PA 15601		
35	Puskas, Stephen	458 Whitestone Road, Butler, PA 16001	724-482-1165	
36	Sweet, John & Charlotte	1264 Walnut Street, Stoneboro, PA 161..	724-376-4335	jasvair@certainty.net
37	Tyger, John & Barb	8399 Rte 954 Hwy. N., Creekside, PA 15732	724-397-2043	jtyger@yourinter.net
38	Watkins, Kerry & Linda	209-1/2 S. Third Street, Youngwood, PA 15697	724-925-1962	
39	Walter, Lester	100 Thompson Lane South, North Huntingdon, PA 15642	724-863-8437	timerles@aol.com

This Roster of Members is compiled for you from our list of paid-up membership dues. We apologize for any keyboarding errors or omissions of information.

If you would like to correct or update your listing, please forward the correct information to:

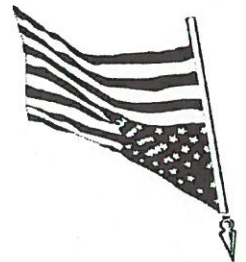
Charles J. Lucas • 236 W. Marigold Street • Munhall, PA 15120 • phone 412-462-6735 • e-mail chasjlucas@aol.com

Next Meeting

September 28, 2004

Hoss's Restaurant • Route 22 • Murrysville
 Dinner at 6:30 p.m. • Meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Never forget 09-11-01



158
 Western Pennsylvania
 Corvair Club
 236 W. Marigold Street
 Munhall, PA 15120

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA
 CORVAIR CLUB

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OCTOBER 2, 2004 Fall Foliage Tour

- Allegheny National Forest-Warren, PA
- Kinzua Dam and other points of interest.
- With a possible stop at Benetzette (located between Dubois and St. Marys, PA) to see the Elk.
- Meet at the McDonalds Restaurant in Butler on Route. 8 near Armo Steel at 7:00 a.m.
- Depart at 7:30 for points North.
- Dinner will most likely be in the Kittanning area.
- Tour Coordinator: **John Gundlach**. Please call him at 724-352-4205 if you plan to attend.