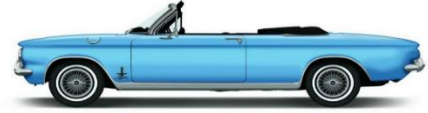




Leaky Seal

Corvair



Corvair Minnesota Newsletter

December 2019

President's message...

Brothers and sisters of CMI, I want to thank you for your show of support in granting me the privilege of serving as your President for the next year. I hope I live up to your expectations.

The Chevrolet Corvair automobile has been a fascination for my whole life. My ownership and maintenance of one of these truly unusual vehicles has driven me to be active in our organization. For only 10 years, GMC gave life to an innovative and unusual car which we are proud to perpetuate.

I have two primary goals as your new President: first, to finish off the by-law adjustments that are long overdue in our 41-year-old charter. Second, I want to press forward to make our club more inviting to younger enthusiasts and provide a welcome forum for their pursuit of Corvair ownership and appreciation.

On the first point, we have had a dedicated committee address our outdated by-laws, and they have come miles toward achieving a new operating procedure for our club. Non-profit laws have changed since we incorporated back in 1978, and we need to make our by-laws and rules more effective in today's challenging collectors' environment.

Thank you, thank you, thank you to Jim Becker and Chuck Johnson for the hours they have spent producing a new set of by-laws for our consideration. We are almost there. We need a few "tweaks" to make this document workable for all of us. To that end, as my first act as President, I will convene the new Board to appoint an expanded by-law committee. As I write this, I am contacting those who have expressed a genuine interest in the project and inviting them to join the newly expanded committee. There is no reason this project cannot be completed in the next 90 days, and I am giving them that challenge: report to the board a recommended by-law package so we can act on it, and recommend a final version to the general membership by May 12, 2020, the date established by the membership at the last meeting. I promise to keep the membership informed of the committee progress and invite full participation in the decision-making process. To repeat, we could not have come this far without the hard work and dedication of Jim and Chuck. We owe them our thanks.

On my second goal, we need to involve new (read: younger) members. Do you remember the Stanley? The Maxwell? The Cord or Velie? None of the original owners or drivers of these automobiles are alive today, but their organizations live on. We need to be in that historical category. Let's get younger members involved, in our programs, at our shows---and yes---on our board. We must do this. I look forward to a great year ahead as your President. In coming days, I will inform you of our decisions, and look forward to seeing you at the Holiday Party on January 4!

Your President,
Tom Quinn



Annual Membership Meeting November 12, 2019

President Jack Bacon called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. Chuck Johnson read the CMI creed. 28 members were in attendance with new member Amber Leah attending with her two sons.

Vote to Replace 1978 North Central Corvair Ass'n Bylaws with New Bylaws as Published in the Leeky Seel:

Motion to Table Vote until January 14 by Peter Schmit, second by Tom Quinn.
Vigorous debate ensued.

Amendment to this Motion offered by Gary Nelson to alter Voting Date to May 12, seconded by Fran Schmit.

Vote was 16 – 8 to approve this Amendment.

Vote on Original Motion as Amended: 16 – 7 to approve tabling the new bylaws vote until May 12. New committee members will be needed.

Treasurer's Report:

Previous Balance	\$3177
Income	21
Expenses	<u>(322)</u>
Current Balance:	<u>\$2836</u>

Current Paid Membership: 81

Secretary's Report: Approved as written.

Motion by John Herkenratt to approve both reports, second by Vince Rohr, carried unanimously.

Recent Events Recap:

October 12: Frankensteiner's Car Show was rainy, but several members attended, the wet weather caused a much smaller turnout.

Upcoming Events Recap:

Holiday Dues Party: Jack and Chris Bacon graciously stepped forward to host this festive annual event, flyer in the Leeky Seel. Send in your reservation!

NEW BUSINESS:

Election of Officers: Each CMI member was given a "6-pack" of ballots colored-coded by race. The first being "Adopt CMI Bylaws Proposal to Replace North Central Corvair Ass'n Bylaws". This ballot was no longer needed.

Next, vote for President: Candidates Jim Becker & Tom Quinn. Ballots were collected and tallied. Results: Tom Quinn is the new President.

Vice President: Gary Nelson is running unopposed, voice affirmation vote in favor.

Treasurer: Lee Knauf is running unopposed, voice affirmation vote in favor.

Secretary: Candidates Chuck Johnson and Ken Laursen. Chuck withdrew due to 10-year tenure, Ken affirmed by voice vote.

Activities Chairman: Vote no longer necessary as this is not an Officer Position in the NCCA bylaws.

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2020 Officer Recap:

President: Tom Quinn
Vice-President: Gary Nelson
Treasurer: Lee Knauf
Secretary: Ken Laursen
Congratulations to the new officers!

Officer changeover was immediate, consistent with NCCA bylaws.

BREAK: Gail Quinn baked treats once again.
THANK YOU!

Tech Session: Winter Storage Preparation:
Jim Becker led this discussion.

Meeting ended: 9:30

Respectfully submitted,
Chuck Johnson

CORVAIR MN

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CMI 2019/20 Schedule

- Dec 10 Board of Directors meeting, 6pm
- 10 Membership meeting, 7pm

- Jan 4 Annual Holiday/Dues party (see information on page 5 in this issue).
- 14 Board of Directors meeting, 6pm
- 14 Membership meeting, 7pm

Winter Snow Cancellation Policy: If it is snowing earlier the day of the meeting and traffic snarls are expected, the meeting will be cancelled. President will decide and Treasurer will send email blast.

**Meet the CMI Board of Directors
& Membership Coordinator**

Tom Quinn, President

The Chevrolet Corvair automobile has been a fascination for my whole life. My ownership and maintenance of one of these truly unusual vehicles has driven me to be active in our organization. For only 10 years, GMC gave life to an innovative and unusual car which we are proud to perpetuate.



Tom pictured with his assistant, grandson Quentin, (future CMI president).

Lee Knauf, Treasurer

I grew up around Corvairs. My parents had a '63 Monza coupe for over 20 years. In 1982 I purchased my first car for \$500, a 1968 Monza affectionately known as "The Bandomobile". Sold it 18 months later for a more reliable vehicle. Started the current fleet in April of 2006 when I saw the yellow '69 in a used car lot in Shakopee. Added the '66 Sedan four years ago and the '66 coupe last year. Looking to add a '66 Corvair 110hp/PG in Aztec Bronze with white interior and Saturn Sky Redline in Forest Green with tan/black interior.



**Jim Brandberg,
Membership Coordinator**

I've been goofing around with Corvairs since about 1969. I was the little brother hanging around an Ice Racing effort and they put me to work. My second car was a Corvair in about 1974. I started working on Corvairs full time in 2012 when the company I worked at for 28 years went out of business. I've been a continuous member since 1995 and was President for 2 years around 2001. I live outside the Twin Cities area, so it gets really easy for me not to attend. To help with that I volunteered to be Membership Coordinator in 2019 and have tried to get to know our members.



**Gary Nelson,
Vice President**



**Ken Laursen,
Secretary**



Convair Minnesota Holiday Party!

Saturday, January 4, 2020 at LATUFF'S PIZZERIA

10820 Highway 55, Plymouth, MN – just west of Hwy 169

Appetizer buffet & social time – 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Cost is \$15 per person * Cash Bar *

Questions/directions: Jack Bacon at 763-291-1298

****We will be collecting donations for Home Free, a shelter for women and children who have needed to flee their homes due to domestic violence. See page 6 for more info. ****

**** \$20 dues for 2020 are payable at the party or mail your check to: **
Lee Knauf, 401 West Street, New Ulm, MN 55073-1527**

Annual CMI Holiday Party Response

Name _____ # attending _____

Cost: \$15 per person (make your check payable to CMI)

Mail your reservation with payment no later than December 20th to:

CMI Holiday Party
Lee Knauf
401 West Street
New Ulm, MN 55073-1527



Corvair Minnesota's Annual Holiday/Dues Party



Donate to Home Free Shelter

Home Free located in Plymouth, MN, is a safe haven for women and children who have needed to flee their homes due to domestic violence. The Shelter provides emergency housing and support services to over 600 women and children each year. Usually filled to capacity, the Shelter can accommodate 30 women and children with an average length of stay of 18 days. Services are provided free of charge to all residents.

Most needed items:

- Sweatshirts and sweatpants (adult sizes)
- Sports bras (e.g., Fruit of the Loom multi-pack)
- Diapers Sizes 1 year and older (for children at women's shelter)
- Target or Amazon gift cards (for supplies for residents moving to permanent housing)
- Personal care items (toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, combs)
- Cash

Want to donate from home? Please go to their [Amazon wish list](#) to purchase the items most-needed for residents and programs.

*Thank
You*

In the Beginning

When we had our first By-Laws meeting in May I carpoled with Bob Johnston and had the opportunity to hear how Corvair Minnesota began. In 1971 or so Bob had come by a Corvair as something cheap to drive, was skeptical at first but soon became enamored with the nifty little car. During the Summer of '72, Bob and another guy thought it would be neat to form a support club. They found Don Helmuth in Fargo who was with "North Central Corvair Nuts" and they formed a Minnesota Chapter under their wing. They didn't like the idea of calling themselves nuts so they went with "North Central Corvair Association".

Midway Chevrolet had a few employees who were into Corvairs and the first meeting was held in their sales conference room in September of '72. The original guy with Bob dropped out after a short time because he sold his Corvair and bought a Mustang. I've met two of those Midway Chev guys in recent years. I found Gene Pearson when looking for another Machine Shop. He drag raced Corvairs in the 70s but has since gone on to other things. He dusted off his Corvair tooling and did some nice work. Skip Reineke (sp?) showed up at my house looking for some Corvair parts when building a 4.3 V-6 rear engine Corvair. He's been building other kinds of street rods all these years but returned to his roots in a way. I haven't seen it yet.

They grew the club in a grassroots fashion by putting fliers under wipers in parking lots (I wonder if they were mimeographs and who did them at work) and talking to people in gas stations. Lots of Corvairs around in the 70s, I like to yell "Corvair" aloud when watching Dagnet or old movies, much to my wife's chagrin, especially in a theatre.

The Corvair meeting moved to The GM Tech Center in '73 which served us well for many years until it closed down sometime in the 90s. My brother went to an early meeting there when ice racing Corvairs but only found one other guy interested in making them go faster. I wondered if his name was Vince but he doesn't remember.

I haven't been able to reach Bob to check the facts but thought I'd write something anyway. This could all be construed as hearsay since I wasn't there. I'm certainly open to correction. I'm sort of a new guy, I've only been around CMI for 25 or 30 years. I started working on Corvairs in '69 with my brothers but didn't have my own until '75. IDK if I can claim 50 years or not.

I don't know offhand when we switched from NCCA to Corvair Minnesota. I've got some early typewritten Leeky Seels that were done up by Vince, I should dig them out. I love hearing the stories about the early days like going to a Convention in Denver or hosting one here in '77 or '78. I wonder if we could assemble a timeline of Officers and who came along when. I better be careful, or I'll be Club Historian too.

There's Corvair clubs that have come and gone in Fargo, Duluth and Eau Claire. I don't know what's so special about us that we've been able to hold it together for 47 years now, but we need to keep that essence. In this season or two of reorganization we may see things in different ways, but we need to remember that we enjoy our time together and ought not be at odds with each other. We like Corvairs which makes us odd fellows enough. Have you seen the way the other guys look at us at GMCCA? Just kidding... sort of.

Jim Brandberg

A quick test!

This is info we should all have at our fingertips. I never know these numbers, so I'm telling you, so you can remind me! Production numbers on general CORVAIR production by model and year. Note the top four as there will be a test – for extra credit!

EM Coupes	677,651
EM Sedans	464,788
LM Coupes	253,492
Vans	106,591
EM Converts	96,540
LM Sedans	82,109
LM Converts	52,322
Station Wagons	32,120
Pickups	20,630

The reason I was so intrigued by this set of numbers is that I didn't realize the Vans were such a large part of the Lineup...and that the Pickups were the group with the smallest production figures!

We all know the 1969 Convert had the lowest number of cars (521) but the 1962 Loadside was smaller yet with only 369! Down there with the lowest of the lows (with only 851) is the 1964 Rampside. These three are the only CORVAIR listings of less than 1000 units.

When you go to a show there always seem to be many CORVAIR Converts – interesting, because all the Converts together made up only 9% of the total car production.

No way to tell this, but since there were so many Rampside at GMCCA last year, it would be interesting to speculate on what percentage of that original 20,630 are still around!

Let's keep on CORVAIRing,

Fran

CMI Classifieds

For Sale:

'65 Monza Sport Sedan, dark blue with a blue interior, 110 hp w/ Powerglide and a new windshield, a new battery, new window fuzzies and a driver's seat extender. It also comes with new (uninstalled) gaskets for the trunk and engine lids and a nice cover. Tires, brakes and exhaust are good; the radio is non-op. Less than 55,000 miles. The finish looks better in pictures, but it is a solid, nice running car. \$3750. **Contact John (612) 719-4580.**

(Oct 2019)



For Sale

- Two early FC headlight bezels, very good condition. \$50 each
- 1964 aluminum air grill, new, also fits thru '63. \$150
- Relined late front brake shoes \$30.

Contact Jerry Berge at 480-250-8816

(August 2019)

For Sale:

Black '64 Spyder coupe. Solid California car with a few paint issues. I'm freshening engine then returning it to owner in Eau Claire. I think it's in the \$9000 neighborhood. There's something about a Black Widow Spyder.

Jim Brandberg 763-444-933

(Sept 2019)

Selling some of the Fleet:

'69 (VIN 4184) Monza Coupe--\$4,000. Owned almost 14 years. New white wall tires in 2019 (not shown in photo). Including original wheel covers. 110hp rebuilt by Jim Brandberg several years ago. Auto transmission. Electronic ignition and fuel pump. Yellow with black interior.

'66 Monza Sedan--\$4750. 140hp (not the original engine) rebuilt in 2018. Auto Transmission. Electronic ignition and fuel pump. White wall tires in 2017 (not shown in photo). Turquoise with aqua interior.

Neither are show cars but great drivers. Cars are located in New Ulm. Prices are somewhat negotiable. **Contact Lee at:**

vairy69@comcast.net if interested in either.

(Dec 2019)



Remember this piece of hardware?

Someone else wants to use it and would like to play with it but, I didn't write down who took it home. Speak up whomsoever has it!

Fran Schmit

(Oct 19)

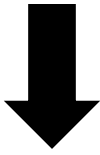


Leeky Seel Classified ads

Do you have a Corvair related item you would like to sell or are in search of? Send your request for an ad in the **Leeky Seel** to: corvairmleekyseel@hotmail.com.

Deadline is the 25th of the preceding month.

Check us out...



For more information on
Corvair Minnesota,
visit our website:
www.corvairminnesota.com

Follow us on
Facebook:
CorvairMinnesota



Spot a Vair!



"This Corvair has 3 on the tree shifting! "

Pictures from corvaircenter.com/phorum

CMI is a non-profit corporation, chartered with the CORVAIR Society of America. Send CORVAIR Minnesota's \$20.00 annual dues, payable by Jan 01, to the CMI Treasurer. Membership in CORVAIR Minnesota entitles you to the monthly newsletter, the **Leeky Seel**, with free ads for members, a club window sticker, discounts on club activities, information on parts availability and good advice on the preservation and enjoyment of the CORVAIR automobile.

THE LEEKY SEEL

11078 16th St NE

St. Michael, MN 55376

TEMP – RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



**December 10th Membership Meeting at the MUM.
See you there!**