



Leaky Seal

Corvair



Corvair Minnesota Newsletter March 2020

President's message:

Happy Valentine's Day to everyone, I hope you all had a great day!

The Bylaws were sent by mail to those who were not at the general meeting, those in attendance received a copy for reviewing. Please read and be ready to vote at the March 10th meeting.

North Saint Paul car show will continue this year but the club will not have the designated parking space we have had in the past as the city will be ripping up the main road and they will have their equipment in that spot all summer. So, they are not taking club requests at this time, but our name is in if there is an opening.

Is there an interest in changing the days/dates for future meetings in place of our monthly meeting days for possible field trips to Drive-Ins? Just a thought. Are there any ideas or suggestions for Drive-Ins, club activities or car shows? What about our club having an Ice Cream Social at the MUM? We could all bring our cars and it would be a nice way of including the church.

I would love for all of us to go to the Auto Show this year, but without a meeting room or area it's difficult, especially when we need to vote on the Bylaws. Would anyone be interested in meeting at the show another night? What about Sunday night March 8???

Tom Quinn

President

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

Membership Meeting Minutes February 11, 2020

President Thomas Quinn called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. President read the creed.

The agenda was modified to distribute proposed bylaws first. A written copy was given to each in attendance and club will mail the rest. President Quinn recognized member Steve Eckman who went over the key parts and changes to the bylaws. Steve explained the bylaw proposal will be fully debatable at the general membership meeting called for March 10, 2020.

President Quinn then took the gavel and proceeded with the general membership meeting and reported that having the tech sessions first has met with membership approval. President Quinn also reported that due to urban renewal, "NORTH ST. PAUL" doesn't have a spot for our cars this year. (S!!!!?????EW EM) is your secretary's personal thought on that! But that's me not afraid to say what's on my mind). I will just have to pitch in and get with Jim B (not spelled like the Air Force Base) and find some more venues that will enjoy a Corvair night at their establishment.

Member Amber Leah commented that our Facebook page is very out of date. It is good that we have input from younger members to help the club be new member friendly.

Tech Session

The tech session was in two parts. Fran did a session on the workings of an ignition coil, then Fran assisted Gary in a complete tear down of an early gas heater which is a rare

treat being they were only available the first couple of years and are not seen on a regular basis.

Treasurer's report

Beginning balance	\$ 4,714
Income	421
Expenses	<u>(44)</u>
Ending Balance	\$ 5,091

President Quinn adjourned the meeting at 9:00 pm.

Ken Laursen

Secretary

CORVAIR MN

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Dues Are Due

If you say it with a Swedish accent it sounds like one of the many things my grandfather would say that I couldn't understand. "Dooserdo?" I might just smile and nod. As per usual, CMI went from 70-some members in December to 40-some in January and 50-some in February. I sent out reminders and haven't seen the monthly update yet, but I hope we don't lose anyone. You're all very important to us. I think people just sorta forget to send a \$20 check to Treasurer Lee Knauf in New Ulm. We will cut off Leeky Seels now if not current and we're sharpening it up to February next year. The calendar year is the term with new members after June getting a pass.

I got to thinking about some Corvairs and people in the vein of "What Ever Happened To?".

Henry Kuhlman's mustard EM. It was talked about fondly in the 90s. Henry passed away after a long illness and it never seemed to turn up. Was his wife named Gen? Nice folks.

The orange (61 red) and white Lakewood. I last saw it with Carolynne Trout, but she sold it to Matt Vantassell in So. St. Paul, but I can't seem to find him. I first remember it with Russ Rankin, but Gary Nelson, Fran Schmit and Andrew Pietenpol owned it as well. Not many Lakewoods around lately so it would be nice to see it again. 80 HP PG purrs like a kitten.

The Egil Twedt Amblewagons. The nicer one went overseas to Germany and Hungary. The so-so one languished in a hangar at the Airport in Blaine, owned by Dick somebody, I can't find my notes, but I did spend some time looking for Dick last year. It may have been scrapped but no one knows for sure. It was a worthy cause, from a town SW along 212. There also was a 60 4-door and a mid-engine V-8 last seen with Mark Fedor who I also tried to find with no luck.

The Egil Twedt 66 4-door. It was a lovely color along the lines of 65 Evening Orchid but a shade different, coral perhaps? Egil had the engine out fixing a cracked flex plate. I thought someone

said Egil's son got it, but I've never met him. I suppose that's 20 years ago now.

George Hedges evening orchid 65 4-door. Maybe a little over the top with the wing and all but a nice 140 HP Corvair. I think someone bought it from a parking lot and I've never seen it again.

Judith Kauffman's green LM convertible, seems to me it went to Kansas or something? (Editor's note: Jack sold it to a guy in New Orleans).

Flatbed Fred is a very nice maroon and gray FC with a diamond plate bed built by Louis Van Kuyken (sp?) and finished by Jerry Berge. Wally Couture and Jack Bacon also owned it here, then it went to Texas and now it's in California. There were two other similar flatbeds back east in Ohio or somewhere, Louis got the idea at a CORSA convention. Wish it was still here.

I haven't seen Jerry's 62 Corvair golf cart for a while, it's a sweet ride.

His name escapes me (Cliff?) but there was a retired high school band teacher with a white/red LM convertible in Red Wing. He just loved a good parade. He passed away a few years ago and I suppose his daughter has the Corvair but I haven't seen or heard about it.

The Cob Burandt 3 cylinder with variable valve timing is in the Veit collection in Buffalo.

I was looking at old racing pictures online and Brian LaPlant was ice racing a LM 4-door. The old SCCA Rally people know him and I saw him on an old CMI Roster. Anyone remember him?

Gene Pearson and Skip Reineke were members in 72 when our club was founded. Gene recently dusted off his Corvair Machine Shop tools and Skip built a rear engine 4.3 V-6 Corvair.

I miss seeing Ron and Loraine Lucas, they still have 2 Corvairs as far as I know. Bob Rowe's California dark green 68 140 HP 4 speed that dropped a valve seat 20 years ago.

Jim Brandberg

Membership Coordinator

February Tech Session Follow-up



We wanted to make certain the idea of checking your coil on the road was shown to be a simple task, by demonstrating it on the table, at the MUM. The coil and capacitor and 12V supply were on display as was a modified spark plug.

Why Modified, you ask. In order to show a half inch spark to 25 CORVAIRists in a room, it has to jump more than the wimpy 0.035" that is spec'd in the manual. The ground tab on the plug was bent away – and – of course, the spark jumped to the base of it! Nice spark but who can SEE it?!?! So, the loong ceramic insulator was exposed by removing a few threads from the plug. Like this!

Normally it takes 10,000 Volts to jump a half inch – about.

That is one way to force your coil to throw a nice long spark...only allow it a long path to jump. It seemed a shame to cut open a nice R44FF plug, but it did have a nice clean ceramic! The plug cut easily with a hack saw.

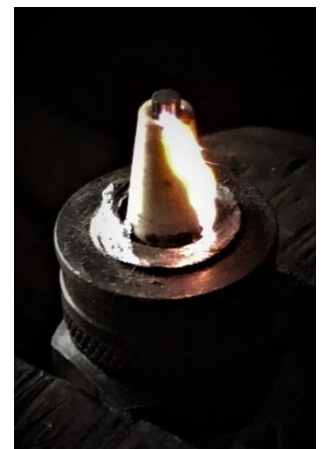
Now it may not be obvious to everyone, but- taking a picture of the spark is a tricky business. I'm certain the GM test labs have the proper setup – not here! However, we did get close enough to show y'all, in the SEEL, what the members saw on Tuesday night.



With this rig, we tested a couple coils brought to the meeting, and all sparked nicely. Oh, we did turn out the room lights, to aid the visibility, for the folks in the back.

If you are concerned, at all, about any coil you have – then this is a way you can easily check them...even on the road. We'll wait now for summertime to do some real tests – on real cars, on the real road!

While writing this note it was noticed that the 'jump' shown was only 3/8" so the plug's threads were all removed, and the coil jumped 0.480" with no problem. Maybe a little more ozone, but nobody complained.



Till then, Keep on CORVAIRing, Fran

Dirty Engines

This is not an old picture. I took this in December 2019. There are many CORVAIRS still running around with "dirty" engines. It is imperative that we keep vigilant on this issue. Just because you have a "garage Queen", doesn't mean those fins are working.

This engine did drop a valve seat, which is why I was looking, and an engine that is not properly cooled is the one that certainly, is ready for cleanup. Read about that under the heading called, "deflash".

Keep on CORVAIR-ing,
Fran



38th Annual General Motors Car Clubs Association

ALL GM CAR / TRUCK SHOW AND SWAP MEET



Live DJ playing music
 Food vendors on site
 Dash plaques to first 500 show vehicles

SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2020 • 8 AM - 2 PM
MINNESOTA STATE FAIRGROUNDS - MACHINERY HILL

SPECTATORS

*General Admission: \$5.00/Adult
 *Children under 12: FREE

EVENT INFORMATION

www.gmcca.com
www.facebook.com/GMCCAssociation

***STATE FAIR RULES PROHIBIT:**

OPEN FIRES, BBQ'S AND
 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES.
 PETS ON LEASHES ONLY

PARTICIPANT AWARDS FOR

**BUICK • CADILLAC • CAMARO • CHEVELLE • CHEVROLET • CHEVROLET/GMC TRUCKS • CORVAIR • CORVETTE
 EL CAMINO • GMC/CHEVROLET MINI-TRUCKS • NOVA • OLDSMOBILE • PONTIAC • UNIQUE/OTHER GM**

Show Vehicles: Gates open at 7am - Enter at Show Vehicle Gate at Larpenteur Ave & Underwood.

For Sale Vehicles: Gates open at 7am - Enter at Show Vehicle Gate at Larpenteur Ave & Underwood.

Swappers: Saturday Setup Available 9am-12pm only
 Sunday Swap gate opens 6am - Enter Randall & Dan Elmer Way
 All makes of parts are welcome!

Spectators: Spectator gates open at 7am.

REGISTRATION FORM – Please Print Legibly or use address label

Name _____
 Street _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone () _____
 Car Club Affiliations (if any) _____

GM SHOW VEHICLE

Make _____ Year _____
 Model _____

Preregister before May 15th - **\$10** per vehicle
 Register after May 15th - **\$15** per vehicle
 Includes Vehicle, driver & one passenger

- SWAP SPACE - 15'x 20' Space**
 \$15 each preregistered before 5/15
 \$20 each after 5/15
ST-19 Required
 Includes driver & one passenger
- FOR SALE AREA VEHICLES (All Makes)**
 \$15 per vehicle preregistered before 5/15
 \$20 per vehicle after 5/15
 Includes vehicle, driver & one passenger
NO 'For Sale' signs allowed in the show area

Make checks payable to and send
 pre-registration form to: GMCCA
 9632 Wyoming Terrace
 Bloomington, MN 55438

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. **Contact Lee at vairy69@comcast.net if interested in either.** Prices are somewhat negotiable.

(Jan 2020)



For Sale

1964 Corvair Spyder Turbo \$10,950

Listed on Craigslist

(Mar 2020)

<https://minneapolis.craigslist.org/hnp/cto/d/montgomery-1964-chevy-corvair-spydera/7070976590.html>



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.**

Spot-a-Vair!

CMI 2020 Schedule

- Mar 10** Board of Directors meeting, 6pm, MUM
10 Membership Meeting 7pm at the MUM
- Apr 4 & 5** Gopher State Timing Association at the State Fair Coliseum. ***Come and see club member Charlie Kinney's modified Corvair.***
- 14** Board of Directors meeting, 6pm, MUM
14 Membership Meeting 7pm at the MUM



Terry Quesnel spotted this motorcycle in New Zealand. A nicely built unit powered with a Corvair engine. It was displayed in a hardware store with a bunch of other unique and antique items. It was a nice surprise find!

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



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