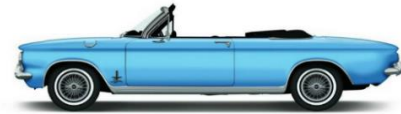




Leeky Seel

Corvair

January 2023



Corvair Minnesota Newsletter

President's message:

I'm writing this Christmas night, Merry Christmas, I hope everyone had a great Holiday weekend!

Last Saturday about a dozen members visited Fleming Field in South St. Paul, and the Commemorative Airforce, it was very interesting. Lousy weather kept the attendance down but it was a great field trip. Later we ate lunch at B52s, great food. Thank you Jim Brandberg for setting this up for us.

Don't forget to send in your reservations for our Holiday party/ dinner Saturday January 7th, it will be at Ideal Hall.

President Tom
Tom Quinn

January Birthdays

- Jerry Audorff
- Cody Berge
- Ali Long
- Dan Quinn



Happy Birthday to you!



As always, let me know if I have missed your name on the Birthday list

Thanks! **Gailquinn263@msn.com** (Gail Quinn, Director of Treats)

Corvair Minnesota, Club Information

Note: *Due to weather, there was no CMI meeting in December.*

November Election results: As of right now we have 5 officers and 2 directors.

Director at large 2 year term: Dave Pederson

Secretary: Amber Leah

Treasurer: Lee Knauf has voluntarily departed from his position and Paul Schuler, has kindly taken his place.

Activities Director: Jim Brandberg

Therefore, all of the positions are filled for the year.

Holiday Party is on January 7th. Applications will be going out... \$15 a person. Same time as last year. Dinner was @ 5 pm. Social hour will begin @ 4pm.

DEADLINE for RESERVATIONS is DECEMBER 30

Jim Brandberg: Regarding activities, there was a lot of good ideas. There has been talk about possibly visiting a car museum. There was continued talk regarding different activities that we could do in the winter. The Corsa convention will be in Wisconsin Dells in June.

It was brought up that we should have a Chili party night in March in Maplewood. March 18th. @ 4 pm. Confirmation will be within the next few months.

2023: Corvair Minnesota Officers, Directors and Coordinators

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An Old Year and a New Year

I tend to reflect on the state of Corvair affairs around New Year's Day but as I write this it's still 2022 so I'm still in a mood for wrapping up the old rather than unveiling the new but let's see...

One thing new is the CMI Treasurer. Dues are due and if you're paying by mail your \$20 check should be mailed to Paul Schuler in Rogers. The Holiday Party has traditionally been a good place to pay Dues or Monthly Meeting works good too. Many thanks to Paul for taking on this responsibility. I'm sure his address can be found elsewhere in this here Leeky Seel.

I'm not trying to put him out to pasture or anything but also many thanks to Lee Knauf for many years of Corvair Minnesota service. He started when he lived in Chaska and continued after moving to New Ulm which is quite a drive. He's worn many hats well around CMI.

We've got some Activities lined up but not quite nailed down. Sounds like a roofer. I'm trying to figure something out every month. Things tend to be lean in Winter and overflowing in Summer.

We've got the Holiday Party in January. I like that because I don't have to do anything.

I believe we have an interesting man cave garage venue in Blaine for a Chili and Soup Party in February or March. Once we have a date for that I'll work on a tour of a high end Restoration Shop in Spring Lake Park for the other month, with a lunch I'm sure.

I believe we have a caravan trip to St. Cloud for a car collection tour in April or May. I hope we can do another Breakfast Car Show at Ideal Hall for the other month. We used to do it in April for a Corvair dustoff but it's been in May lately.

Then it gets pretty easy by just picking out Car Show or other events in different directions.

Don't forget that the CORSA Convention is in Wisconsin Dells at a waterpark resort this year and it will probably never be any closer. I don't see us doing one but I suppose never say never.

Last year I tried to pick events in different directions. Prior Lake on a Friday evening where Corvairs were featured. New Ulm on a Saturday where we had a little caravan. St. Francis on a Friday evening because it's close for me and the Berges. Anoka on a Saturday that rained out except for a few of us. Nowthen Threshing Show on a Saturday for something different. Osceola on a Saturday, also Buffalo on the same day that split our forces. Frankensteiners in Cambridge to end the season. You can't forget Back To the 50s even though it's only for EMs.

Some places I couldn't fit in were Stillwater, Hastings, Victoria, Pine City, Hugo and Eau Claire. Maybe this year. Maybe something in Plainview. All it takes is a person to coordinate and others will help. I like to send a promotional e-mail to the 80 addresses I have and someone puts it on Facebook since I don't belong. I also strive to have it in the Leeky Seel ahead of time.

I never used to be a person who reflected much around New Years. "I yam what I yam and dats all what I yam" is how Popeye put it. I wish I could be writing a New Year proclamation sort of a thing but I'm just not feeling it at the moment. I feel like the Old Year worn out guy in the cartoon. I know who I am and what I do at the core but I'm sweating the small stuff lately. Corvair repair jobs are getting SO EXPENSIVE. Everything seems to be up 33 - 50% from a year ago which is especially hard for a guy like me who's stuck in the past. Maybe I shouldn't have listened to the "Old Hippie" song on YouTube the other day. I don't know what I want to drive to the convention. I don't even know if I'm Early or Late. Sometimes I wish I wasn't such a bottom feeder. I'm befuddled when I can't find things. I'm good though.

Jim Brandberg

Lighted Heater control: Early and FC

The heater control is mounted right above the driver's right knee. Cables and wires are attached to this machine. The fan speed is controlled by the handle shown right in front of the control unit.

After removal from under the dash (three screws) the unit hangs down on the ends of the three steel cables that control the positions of three air dampers....Heat, Air and Defrost.

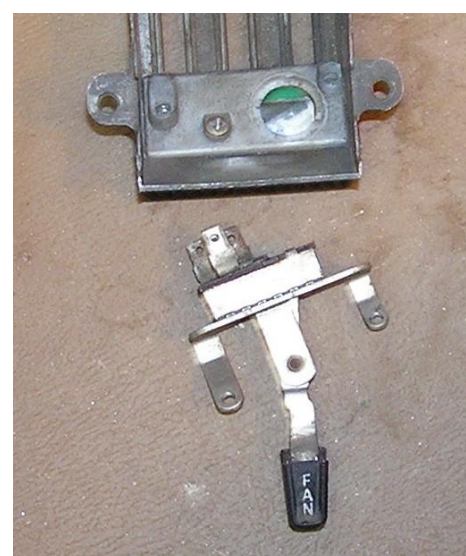
The view from above shows the fan switch and the light bulb assembly used to light the heater controls with their lovely pale green color.

Removal of the light bulb gives us a sneak preview of how we get that nice green illumination.

The heater fan speed switch comes off the top of the unit revealing a cover screwed down on top of the light box.

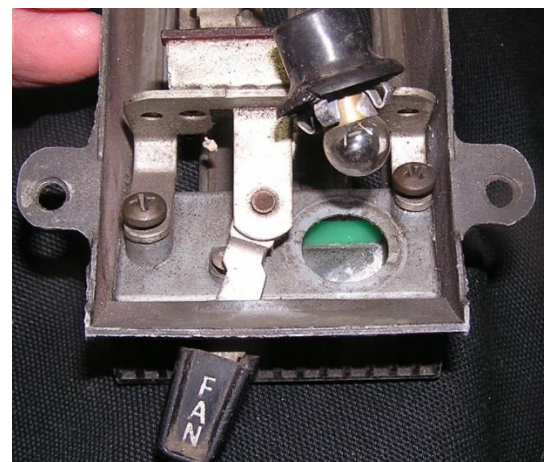
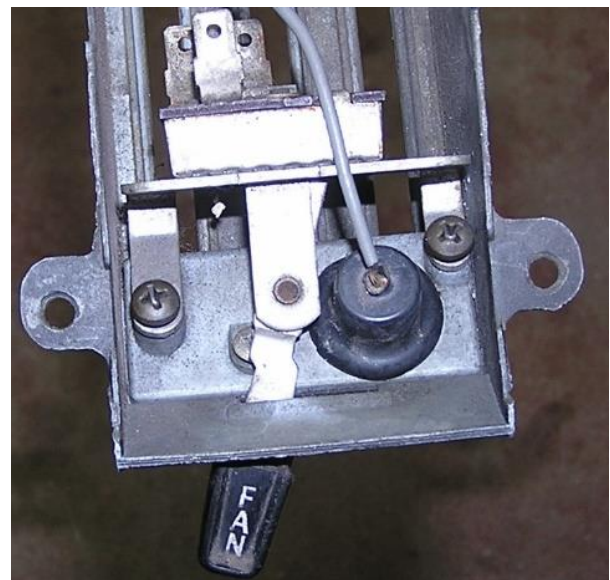
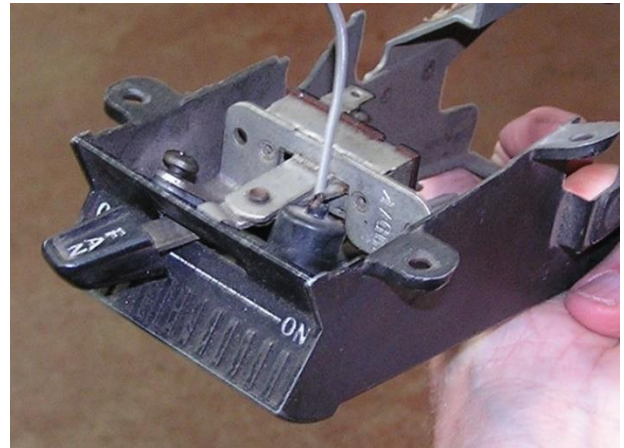
Removing the cover of the light box shows us a nice little aluminum box which after fifty years is a bit dusty. Clean it out and prepare to paint it white (just inside of the little box).

The side of the light box that faces the control knobs is a removable panel of green plastic. This panel is neatly fitted with slide-in channels on all four sides to seal it snugly inside the control unit. The light bulb was not centrally located inside the light box (see the first photo) so, in order for enough light to fall on the control knob for the "HEAT" cable the window was widened on that end.



The small square cutouts shown on the end of the cable's travel allowed the light to shine from the green panel down on to the white painted letters embossed into the control's knobs.

That single light bulb is wired into the dash lights and is therefore only on at night and is also dimmed with the normal dash light dimmer circuit. Cleaning the green plastic and painting the inside of the light box – white, will increase the illumination of the words on the Lighted Heater Control.



Lighted Heater Control – cont. on page 7



Corvair Minnesota Holiday Party

Saturday, January 7th, 2023
TST Creative Catering/ Ideal Hall
1494 Dale Street N, St Paul

Social Hour: 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Cash Bar is available

Dinner is served at 5:00 pm
Cost is only \$15.00 per person



Dinner options:

Stuffed Chicken Breast
(with Wild Rice & Sausage)
Garlic Mashed Potatoes
Carrots

Roast Beef
Mashed Potatoes
Carrots

Vegetarian Ravioli
Vegetable Medley



All will be served with:

Salad w/ Dressings, Rolls & Butter, and Chocolate Caramel Cake

Questions/directions: call Dave Pedersen @ (612) 385-2241

Mail in your reservation (opposite side)
along with payment of \$15 per person (check payable to CMI) to:

Dave Pedersen
14957 Durant St NE
Ham Lake, MN. 55304





Corvair Minnesota Holiday Party

Saturday, January 7th, 2023

***** Annual CMI Holiday Party Response *****

Name _____ Meal choice: Chicken _____ Beef _____ Vegetarian _____

Name _____ Meal choice: Chicken _____ Beef _____ Vegetarian _____

Name _____ Meal choice: Chicken _____ Beef _____ Vegetarian _____

Name _____ Meal choice: Chicken _____ Beef _____ Vegetarian _____

Name _____ Meal choice: Chicken _____ Beef _____ Vegetarian _____

Cost: \$15.00 per person (make your check payable to CMI)

Mail your reservation for the Party no later than December 30th to:

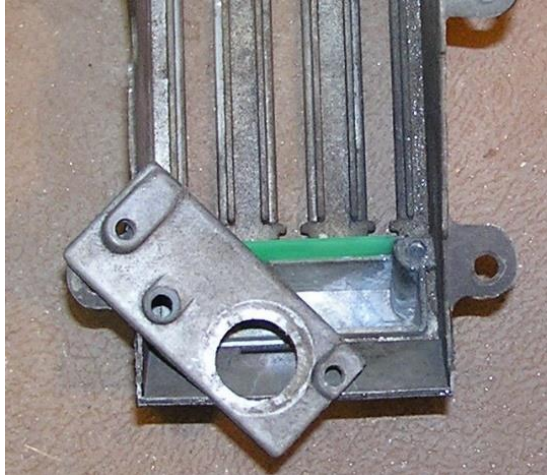
**CMI Holiday Party
Dave Pedersen
14957 Durant St NE
Ham Lake, MN. 55304**

Dave14957@gmail.com (612)385-2241

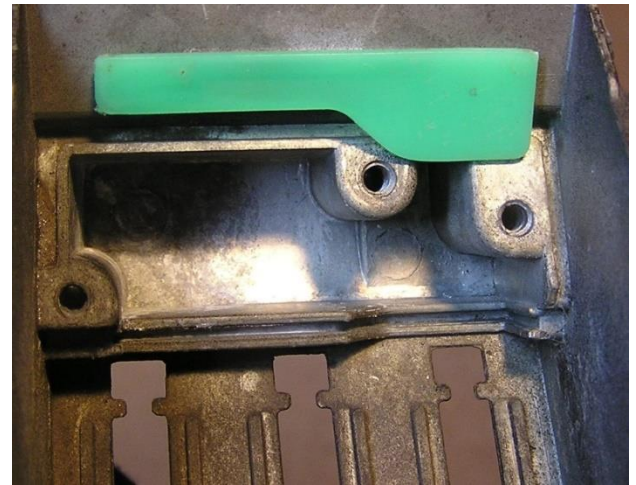
*****Return this part with your check(s)*****



Continued from page 4



The photo on the right shows a nicely cleaned up view of the green panel as seen from the view of the control knobs.



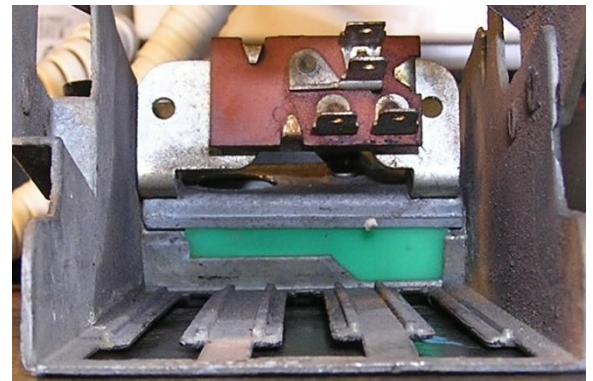
If for some reason you have damaged the knob that reads HEAT or AIR and

you need to replace the knob it is quite difficult to slide the knob off the end of its shaft. It is usually easier to remove the crank assembly with the knob still attached – as shown in this final photo.

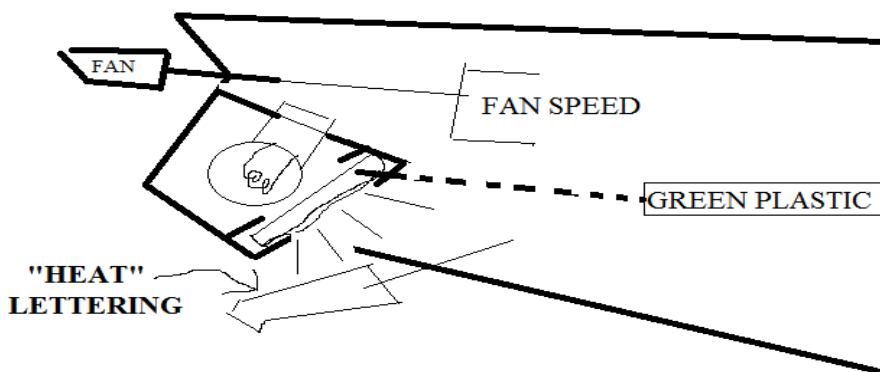


I didn't know how the knobs were lit until I took off a knob to give to a member who had lost his. That's when I took the whole assembly to pieces and found that little panel inside. Fascinating how things were done in the olden days!

Happy CORVAIRing! *Fran Schmit*



LIGHTED HEATER CONTROL



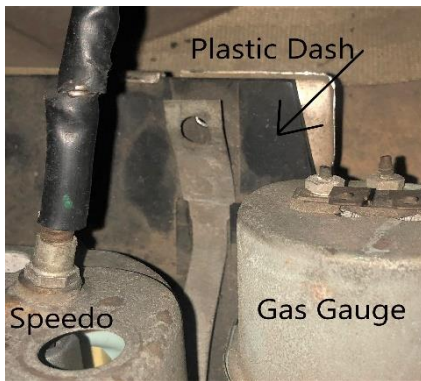
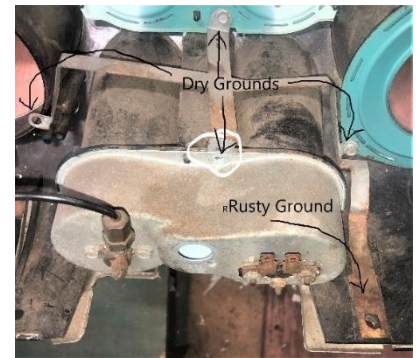
LM Dash Ground

First off, let's make certain we all know what we mean by "the Ground". In your house you must have a Ground Wire. That means there is an Electrical path referenced to the EARTH (looks like dirt and usually called ground) back at the transformer supplying your house with its 220V Power. In Automotive circuits we have just 12V plus and minus (Red and Black). One side (Black/Ground) of all the Electric Circuits is connected into the body of the vehicle (Plastic cars have a special wire run for this purpose because the body cannot carry the current). The Body, or this special wire, is a common wire to all of the car's circuits – meaning they are all, permanently, hooked together on that same Battery Post! They are connected together the same as all devices at home are hooked to a common wire. In CORVAIRs/FCs we call this common electrical connection the 'Ground', connected to the Negative (-) Battery Terminal.



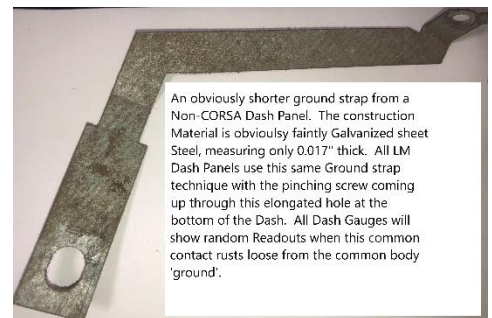
The other wire in this setup is the HOT lead. So called because you can get a good HOT spark by touching this lead to practically every conducting thing in the vehicle. Shop manuals sometimes point out a terminal that is HOT at all times! Because ALL cars, manufactured today, use the Negative Terminal of their Battery as the ground, it is possible to touch the metal bumpers of separate vehicles together and have a larger common Ground – sometimes useful in Jump Starting! NOT recommended for the casual motorist! Certainly NOT for cars with Plastic Bumpers! The HOT lead is the one connected to the RED/Positive Battery Terminal. A big HOT lead goes to the Starter whose case is 'Grounded', completing the connection back to the Battery.

As we've just seen the vehicle is one large Negative Terminal with discrete Positive wires spread about to direct the electricity through various switches or gauges. There is a situation that is somewhat unusual in the Plastic Dash of our Late Model (LM) CORVAIRs. Covered by a thin Aluminum sheet to make it pretty. Ordinarily it would hardly ever be noticed except for a slight anomaly. First off, because it is a non-conductive Plastic Panel with a bunch of electrical devices mounted to it, those devices must have their individual appropriate control wires coming to them. They all – each one – must also have a Ground wire. Being a 'Ground' wire, it is common to "the body" but there is only one point in this Dash's ground that is connected to 'the body'. Again, this would hardly ever be noticed except for an oddity in the heating system. Southern CORVAIRs rarely notice this condition.



In colder climates there are often wet-footed passengers in CORVAIRs. The heater blows strong hot winds on those wet feet and sends the moisture flying about inside a vehicle that has this cold Plastic Dash Panel. Moisture condenses on both side of this panel and sometimes there's enough condensation to actually have water running down the backside of the Dash. Because the LM Dash panel is nearly Horizontal at the bottom, condensed water can pool there. Water pools other places too, but here's where the "rubber hits the road". There's only one place on the LM Dash where the Dash Ground's 'flatwire' contacts the 'Body'. Oh, this 'ground'ing conductor is not copper but just a steel strap used for this innocent little function. This Ground 'wire' contact to the Body is at the little chrome plated screw next to the steering column – right

where condensate goes. The screw secures the Dash and in so doing, presses the flat-stock Grounding Connector against the Steel Structure. Because it got wet occasionally, that bottom end got rusty and lost contact, or rusted off! Causing serious Gauge malfunctions! EMs and FCs do not have Plastic Dash Panels – so they get a pass on this Tip! If/When you remove that LM Dash Panel you can do some R&R on the Ground strap. If not R&R'ing, you could just lube the strap you have by squirting a little oil on it. Also check that the Dash mounting Screw is snug.



Keep on CORVAIRing, Fran

CMI Classifieds



The El Corvino has been getting attention at car shows and I'm thinking about the next project. I'm looking for a few cars to make another custom Corvair.

I need a station wagon, an early 2 door and an early 4 door, none of which need to run.

The wagon needs to have a good body - nothing else matters, I'm going to put in a 64 suspension, different interior and customize the body.

Send me an email with some information and pics.

Dave Pedersen dave14957@gmail.com

For Sale

4- Auto wheel dollies for moving Vehicles in any direction on 3" roller Bearing swivel casters

\$100 – cash only

Contact Keith at (612) 718-1822



Needs a new home:

Vacuum Pump. 110 V AC. Fittings mate with Freon connectors. Rolls easily on four casters. Free home delivery within reason. Fran Schmit (952) 929-9174 schmfran@hotmail.com



GM Signs and Memorabilia Wanted

Seeking original Chevrolet/GM/Pontiac dealership signage and memorabilia. original NOS parts AC Delco, United motors OK used cars sports dept. etc. looking for stuff in good to excellent condition. cash paid and will pick-up

Chad Blomberg (612) 214-1866 cbinthecloud@icloud.com

I have parted out many Corvairs and have a wide variety of parts. I now have good used starters. They have been inspected and cleaned up internally and tested on an engine. \$120 for the ones with a new solenoid, \$100 for the ones with original solenoid. I have a few worn out but not catastrophic failure \$400 core engines for the airplane guys. 65-67. I have about 20 engines that have not been evaluated. I could do so depending on need. I've got many transmissions and differentials. Complete front and rear suspension assemblies.

763-FourFourFour-9334

Check us out...



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

Follow us on
Facebook:
Corvair Minnesota



Public group · 307 members
(as of 12/29/2022)

Spot a 'Vair!



***An alternative to hauling a
'Vair forward or backward***

-from Steven J. Serenska e-mail to VVairs

*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. **Yeah!***

THE LEEKY SEEL

408 7th St S
Hopkins, MN 55343-7722

TEMP – RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



*The CMI Holiday party will be held on the 7th
of January at Ideal Hall – see you there!?*