

On the Air

Newsletter of the Arkansas Corvair Club ■ CORSA Chapter 722

March 2004

Volume 17, Issue 3

2004 Corvair Convocation set for Mountain View, April 23-25

Join Corvair enthusiasts in Mountain View for spring reunion.

The Best Western Fiddlers Inn, at the intersections of highways 5, 9, and 14 North, in Mountain View, will be our lodging place and base of operations for our weekend weekend Ozark getaway. The resort address is 601 Sylamore Avenue.

Motel Reservations

Our club has blocked 15 non-smoking rooms at a special group rate. Room rates are \$61.20 for one king bed or two full beds, with AAA or AARP. \$68.00 for others. The deadline for reserving one of these rooms is **April 9**. For information and reservations, call **800 528-1254** or **870 269-2828**. For more information, see the flyer insert in this newsletter.

Plenty to do in Mountain View

There will be plenty for everyone to do during our weekend stay in Mountain View. Located in Stone County west of Jonesboro between Allison and Fairfield Bay along Hwy 9, near the Sylamore River and the Ozark National Forest, Mountain View is located deep in the Ozark Mountains surrounded by mountains and rivers offering boundless outdoor activities including Blanchard Springs Caverns

and world class fly fishing. You can also explore the Ozark experience at the Ozark Folk Center or enjoy live music on the historic Courtsquare or browse through many local shops filled with one of a kind crafts and unique gifts.

Friday Afternoon and Evening

Friday afternoon and evening is your time to get settled into your quarters, visit with fellow Corvair folks, and choose a place for your evening meal and entertainment.

Saturday Morning - Show 'n Shine Corvair Display

Following a group breakfast and ACC meeting on Saturday morning, we will be shining and showing off our Corvairs at Aunt Minnie's Mall. The mall is colocated with the Fiddlers Inn and Joshua's Ozark Restaurant, our breakfast and meeting place.

Saturday Evening Dinner

For Saturday evening, at 7:00, JB King has planned a fun dining experience for us at Angler's White River Crossroads Cafe.

We look forward to seeing lots of familiar and new faces in Mountain View, April 23-25. ■

We need to know if you plan to join us in Mountain View

If you are planning to join other Arkansas Corvair Enthusiasts for our 2004 Spring Getaway to Mountain View, April 23-25, we ask that you call JB or Elvis King and tell us your total number attending. You can reach JB or Elvis at **501 888-1224**.

For planning purposes, we need to know how many people to expect at the Mountain View gathering and how many will be joining us for breakfast on Saturday morning and for the group dinner on Saturday evening.

For this reason, we ask that you call JB or Elvis, at **501 888-1224**, and confirm your plans with them.

We're expecting to meet members from Fairfield Bay, Hot Springs, and other Arkansas cities and towns.

We hope to meet you there, as well. ■

Happy 50th Anniversary to Buddy & Martha Murray

We send our warmest wishes and congratulations to ACC members Buddy and Martha Murray, of Wynne, who celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on March 14.

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"Corvairs bring friends together."

A CORVAIR CHRONOLOGY (PART 1)

Reprinted from *Corvairsation*, October 2003, Tucson Corvair Association

May 1952 - Edward N. Cole moves from Cadillac to Chevrolet's top engineering spot. Brings key men with him. Their assignment: "Enliven Chevrolet's staid product line." Cole has already put considerable thought and work into rear-engined experimentals.

1955 - Chevy R&D chief Maurice Olley reports to Cole on various engine placements and drive configurations in terms of economics and manufacturing feasibility. Preliminary research begins on two-piece aluminum flat six. But idea is soon shelved due to lack of technology.

July 1956 - Cole becomes Chevrolet's general manager; moves ahead with Corvair (called Holden La Salle II) prototypes.

August 1957 - Ned Nickles begins styling studies for Corvair under watchful eyes of Cole and Harley Earl.

September 1957 - GM president Harlow Curtis sees styling clays, hears Cole's presentation, gives his blessing. Soon afterward, GM's engineering policy committee and board of directors also approve the Corvair. For the first time, it's officially on its way to production.

Winter 1957 thru Summer 1958 - Corvair evolves mechanically. Its engine and drivetrain tested in cobbled Porsches, a Vauxhall, and one full mechani-

cal prototype. Cole pleased.

Spring 1958 - Second and third "Holden" mechanical prototypes built and tested. Detail engineering and planning for new Willow Run Corvair plant now at full tilt.

July 1958 - Conversion of GM plant at Willow Run started. Corvair's official home.

September 1958 - *Motor Life* [magazine] predicts the Corvair in amazingly accurate detail, based on tooling orders.

May 22, 1959 - GM announces it will introduce a compact car for 1960. Name Corvair becomes official. (Chrysler had made a similar announcement on its Valiant on March 10, and so had Ford on the Falcon, February 19.)

October 2, 1959 - First Corvair bows. Falcon debuts six days later, and Valiant arrives October 29. Falcon outsells Corvair immediately.

April 1960 - *Motor Trend* magazine names Corvair the "Car of the Year" for 1960.

May 1960 - First Corvair coupe arrives, as does Monza 900 series, with 95-bhp engine and 4-speed gearbox optional. A Paxton-supercharged Corvair sedan hits 0-60 mph in 15.8 seconds, as compared

with 21.2 seconds stock. Top speed increases from 88 to 95 mph. Corvair is turning into a performance machine.

September 1960 - Lakewood wagon introduced for 1961; also Greenbrier, Corvan, Rampside, and Loadside vans and pickups. Bore increased from 3 3/8 to 3 7/16 inches to up displacement from 140 to 145 cid.

Watch for Part II in your April issue of *On the Air*. ■

Happy Birthday
to our ACC associates
born in March.

Lise Cobb
Cindy LaCrosse
March 6

Betty Simmons
March 7

Carole Gregory
Bill Smith (57 years)
Rhonda Snyder
March 9

Mary Jolley
March 10

Deloris Higgins
March 11

Javier "Joe" Espejo (65 yrs)
Bill MacSorley
March 13

Happy Anniversary
Buddy & Martha Murray
March 14 (50 years)

ACC Dues Alert

In an effort to keep everyone informed about the status of your ACC membership dues, we publish a membership *Dues Alert* in every issue of *On the Air*.

The *Dues Alert* lists names of members who are past due, those due for the current month, and those due the following month.

Dues are **\$20.00** for regular membership and **\$15.00** for associate members. Please mail payments to: **Arkansas Corvair Club, P.O. Box 627, Little Rock, AR 72203.**

Here are the names that are **past due** and due in **March**.

Past Due Eric Evans
Ricky Grant
Stephen Franco
Stew MacLeod
Bill Reves
Mike Shroyer

Due Mar..... Kim Armstrong
James Carter
Andy Cobb
Jef Higdon
Steve Simmons

Please disregard if you've already paid or mailed your check. **We appreciate your support.** ■

ACC February Meeting Minutes



JB King

The Arkansas Corvair Club met at Just Like Mom's restaurant, on Kiehl Avenue, in Sherwood, on Tuesday, February 17

The meeting was called to order by president Cathy Smith.

Old Business

JB King reported on our plans for our spring getaway weekend in Mountain View, April 23-25. If you plan to attend and have **not** made your reservation at the Best Western Fiddlers Inn, you should do so before the April 9 deadline.

We have planned a group breakfast at Joshua's Ozark Restaurant, at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 24. During the breakfast gathering, we will hold our April ACC meeting.

Following the breakfast, we will display our Corvairs in the parking lot of Aunt Minnie's Mall, from approximately 10:00 a.m. until noon.

On Saturday evening, at 7:00 p.m.,

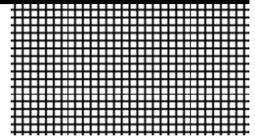
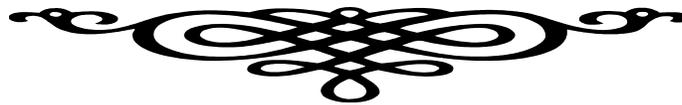
March means nominations for ACC officers

Once again its March and that means basketball and time to nominate ACC officers for our 2004-05 business year.

Our elected officers are President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

To run for an office or nominate someone, please be sure to attend this month's meeting, on Tuesday, March 16, 7:00 p.m., at Just Like Mom's restaurant, 3140 E. Kiehl Avenue, in Sherwood.

For our Corvair club to continue to grow and prosper, we need leadership and support from everyone.



we have reservations for a group dinner at Angler's White River Crossroads café. The restaurant is providing mini-menus earlier in the day, so that everyone can choose their entrée in advance and the staff will be ready to serve us when we arrive at 7:00. JB King will coordinate menu selections with the restaurant before Saturday afternoon. The restaurant has an excellent soup and salad bar.

There are many things to do in Mountain View and we will have a list of suggestions for you to choose from for your entertainment and dining preferences on Friday evening and Saturday afternoon. For more information, see the flyer inserted in this newsletter.

New Business

Bill Smith read a letter from Ned

Madsen, with the Mid Continent Corvair Association, in Wichita, Kansas. Mr. Madsen is proposing that CORSA chapters in the central U.S. consider holding a regional Corvair mini-convention.

Bill volunteered to follow up on this inquiry by contacting Madsen and serving as our club's contact during initial investigation. Bill will report at our March meeting.

At our March meeting, we will nominate a new slate of officers for the 2004-05 business year. We will vote on the new officers at our April meeting, to be held on Saturday, April 24, in Mountain View.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

JB King

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enjoyment, and preservation of
the Chevrolet Corvair."*

Arkansas Corvair Club Information

Meetings

The Arkansas Corvair Club (ACC) meets on the **3rd Tuesday** of each month at **Just Like Mom's** Home Cooking restaurant, 3140 E. Kiehl Ave., in Sherwood.

March Meeting

The ACC will meet Tuesday, **March 16**, 7:00 p.m., at Just Like Mom's, on Kiehl Ave., in Sherwood.

Join us at 6:00 p.m. for food and fellowship prior to the meeting. The club offers an array of merchandise for sale—oil filters, gas filters, hats, decals, patches, T-shirts and more.

Officers

President: Cathy Smith, 370 Windwood Drive, Cabot, AR 72023, 501 843-8413.

Vice-President: Ronnie MacLeod, 28305 Bandy Rd., Little Rock, AR 72211, 501 821-3622.

Treasurer: Elvis King, 21305 N. Mill Rd., Little Rock, AR 72206, 501 888-1224 (evening).

Secretary: JB King, 21305 N. Mill Rd., Little Rock AR, 72206, 501 888-1224 (evening).

Elected Board: Allan Embrey, 501 834-5373; Ronnie MacLeod, 821-3622; Clyde Jones, 479 774-6789; Bill Smith, 501 843-8413.

Appointed Board: Pending.

Committee Chairs

Membership: Elvis King

Publicity: Bill Smith

Newsletter Editor: Bill Smith, 370 Windwood Drive, Cabot, AR 72023, 501 843-8413.

Newsletter Advertising:

Non-members and businesses:
\$100/year full page; \$60-½ page;
\$35-¼ page.

Program & Events: Open

ACC Webmaster: Ken Franson, 608 Ridgelea Ave., Sherwood, AR 72120, 501 835-6005.

Web Address

Arkansas Corvair Club Web site:
<http://corvair5.tripod.com/acc.htm>

ACC Mission: The mission of the Arkansas Corvair Club (ACC) is to promote the maintenance, enjoyment, and preservation of all types of Corvairs and related vehicles, and to advance and improve driving skills, automobile safety, and the Corvair's image.