

On the Air

Newsletter of the Arkansas Corvair Club ■ CORSA Chapter 722

August 2006

Volume 19, Issue 8

ACC members gather in Buffalo for 2006 CORSA International Convention

Your Arkansas Corvair Club was well represented by a strong member showing at the 2006 CORSA International Convention, in Buffalo, NY, July 25-29.

Fourteen ACC members traveled to Buffalo for the 2006 convention, with George and Barbara Koenig being the only members to travel to the convention in a Corvair.

George drove his 1962 Rampside from Mountain Home to Buffalo. Also, he participated in the People's Choice car display and the Economy Run events. Elvis King accompanied George, as navigator, during the Economy Run.

Congratulations to George for win-

ning 1st place for Forward Controls in the People's Choice display.

During their return trip to Arkansas, George and Barbara took a minor detour to New York City to see the Statue of Liberty.

Two notable absences at this year's convention were Clyde and Dee Jones, whose company was missed by fellow ACC members. Other Turbo Class competitors, however, probably didn't miss Clyde during the Economy Run.

We did learn from a credible source that our own Stew MacLeod attempted a personal fireworks display on his table, during the convention banquet. More to follow. ■

Thanks to ACC members for your generous and kind support

by Elvis King

On behalf of all ACC members, I express our sincere thanks to **Jim Latture** and **Larry Levy** for their recent club donations to the Arkansas Corvair Club.

Jim and Larry both had received needed parts from fellow club members who declined payment for those parts in lieu of a donation to the club. As payment for the parts, Jim and Larry donated money to our ACC treasury. This kind of generosity benefits everyone involved and especially benefits our club treasury.

Also, I want to pass along a triple set of thanks to **Hank Wangle**, our member in Greenbrier. (Wouldn't it be appropriate if Hank drove a Corvair Greenbrier?)

Hank attended our June meeting and surprised everyone by contributing door prizes consisting of three different Hot Wheels Vairy 8 car models, a five pack of Hot Wheels containing a Vairy 8, and a five pack of Action Muscle Machines containing a blown V-8 1962 Monza coupe.

Our thanks again to these and all other ACC members who donate your time and money to make our club and meetings just a little bit nicer. ■

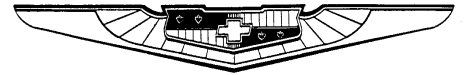


ACC members attending the 2006 CORSA International Convention, in Buffalo, NY, from left, Bill Smith, Cathy Smith, Fran Gray, Ernie Gray, George Koenig, Barbara Koenig, Stew MacLeod, Al Embrey, Ronnie MacLeod, Ryan MacLeod, JB King, and Elvis King. Not pictured, Camelia Franson and Ken Franson.

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"Corvairs bring friends together."



Photos from the CORSA Convention in Buffalo, NY



Sign in front of the General Motors plant, in Tonawanda, New York (just north of the city of Buffalo). This plant manufactured all engines for the Chevrolet Corvair production run, from 1959 to 1969. If you drive a Corvair, your engine was manufactured here, in upstate New York. The plant is still operating today, producing engines for GM automobiles. The plant faces the Tonawanda Channel of the Niagara River. A small group of CORSA Convention attendees had the good fortune to tour the Tonawanda Engine Plant, on Monday, July 24.



Pictured from left, ACC members Elvis King, JB King, and Barbara Koenig enjoy lunch at the Table Rock Restaurant, overlooking Niagara Falls, during a convention tour into Canada, on Friday, July 28. Several other ACC members also joined the Friday tour.

Happy Birthday
to our ACC associates
born in September.

Larry Claypool
September 8

Rava Reed
September 10

Dee Jones
Stew MacLeod
September 11

Al Embrey
September 16

Joyce Wangle
September 22

Pat Drannon
September 24

Butch Chapman
September 27

Hazel Latture
September 28

Happy Anniversary
to

Bill & Pam MacSorley
September 4 (18 years)

Bob & Lola Piggot
September 8

Aaron & Mary Swift
September 9

Corey & Lauri Holtz
September 10 (18 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 and those due for the current 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 **August**.

Past Due John Coffey
Keith LaCrosse
Bill MacSorley
Tommy Painter
Aaron Swift

Due Aug Buddy Murray

Please disregard if you've already paid.
Thanks for your generous support. ■

ACC July Meeting Minutes



JB King

The Arkansas Corvair Club did not hold a Tuesday meeting in July.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 15, 7:00 p.m. (6:00 p.m. for dinner) at Just Like Mom's restaurant, on Kiehl Avenue, in Sherwood.

Please plan to join us in August.

Whale watching in Mountain View in September

UltraVans to rally in Mountain View

UltraVan Motor Coach Club hosting 2006 UltraWeek in Arkansas

September 18-23, 2006

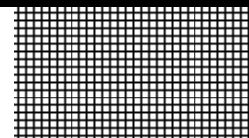
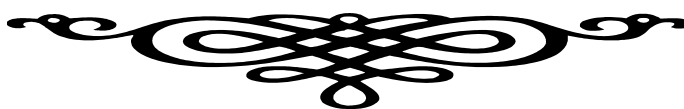
There will be whale watching in and around Mountain View, Arkansas, from September 18 - 23, when a herd of whales (a.k.a. Corvair UltraVans) migrate to town to celebrate UltraWeek.

The UltraVan Motor Coach Club bills UltraWeek as their annual North American rally. This year's site is the Ozark RV Park, 1022 Park St, in Mountain View.

The week-long event features tech sessions, potlucks, pickin' and fiddlin', shopping, supper at Jo-Jo's Catfish Wharf on the White river, and a banquet with officer installation at The Skillet restaurant.

Arkansas Corvair Club members Jim and Roy Davis are the planners/organizers for the 2006 UltraWeek in Arkansas.

The UltraVan Motor Coach Club is chapter 008 of CORSA. For information about UltraWeek, contact Jim Davis at **270 435-4572**, or e-mail jld@wk.net. ■



Odds & ends from the 2006 CORSA Convention program

reported by Jim Diell

Robert Samuel McLaughlin, 1871 - 1972

Colonel Sam McLaughlin lived east of Toronto, Canada. His family's business was building carriages, but he could see the writing on the wall. The automobile was going to replace the horse.

Sam bought a Buick, in Toronto, Ontario, in 1906, and one drive back to Oshawa convinced him that this was the car he wanted to build. Sam traveled to the U.S. to work a deal with Billy Durant. Buicks were sold in the U.S. and, eventually, McLaughlin

Buicks were sold in Canada.

Sam McLaughlin hedged his bets as he was getting into the car making business. He visited Buffalo and made a deal with the Pierce Arrow company to sell these up-market cars in Canada. Another hedge was the selling of Rausch and Lang electric cars.

Later on, General Motors Canada gained ownership of McLaughlin Buick and the McLaughlin name was dropped from the product line, leaving the Buick name we know today. ■

About General Motors Canada

General Motors Canada of Oshawa (Ontario) built its plant number two to build the Chevrolet Corvair.

Local legend or rumor says that 50 Corvairs were built in the fall of 1959 at the Oshawa plant so that the workers could learn the new technology and manufacturing process, correct mistakes, and gradually build some speed into the production line. Also, the legend says that the 50 cars were shipped to a wrecking yard east of Oshawa to be "recycled."

You will still see Corvairs in Oshawa, Ontario. The easiest way to find one is to talk to Mayor John Gray. Mayor Gray has been driving Corvairs since he was a teenager. They may have been a hobby, as he once drove an Omni GLH, but at other times a Corvair was his only means of transportation. One winter,

he commuted daily from Oshawa into Toronto in a chilly Greenbrier.

What will happen to our [beloved] hobby car? You may notice a lot of gray hair (walking history) circulating the host hotel at this [2006 CORSA] convention. We need to mentor younger drivers and enthusiasts into acquiring some Corvair cars and preserving the car and the hobby.

In Burlington, Ontario, a retired teacher volunteers his time to teach students at Robinson High School how to rebuild Corvair engines. If you visited the school this past semester, February through June, 2006, you would have seen four Corvair engines and drive trains in various stages of repair. These are not the first engines worked on by these teens. Perhaps they will be some of those who will carry on the Corvair hobby when we are history. ■

As reported in the CORSA Communiqué, August 2006

Charles M. Hewett, 82, passed away on May 29, in Temecula, California. Chuck Hewett had resided for several years near Rogers, Arkansas.



On the Air

Arkansas Corvair Club
370 Windwood Drive
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Place
first class
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here.

FIRST CLASS

*"Promoting the maintenance,
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.

August Meeting

The ACC will meet Tuesday, **August 15**, 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: Ken Franson, 608 Ridgelea Ave., Sherwood, AR 72120, 501 835-6005.

Vice-President: Meredith Chapman, P.O. Box 243, Jacksonville, AR 72078, 501 676-6693.

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.