

# On the Air

Newsletter of the Arkansas Corvair Club ■ CORSA Chapter 722

August 2010

Volume 23, Issue 8

## A Car Adventure in New Mexico

by Laura Bentz

Reprinted from *Temp Press*, June 2010, the newsletter of the Central Florida Corvair Club

*Could this car be the Bob Berry Corvair?*

**W**e found a Corvair in New Mexico about six years ago in a little town called Mountainair.

What happened was Bob and I went to visit our son, Bobby, and his wife, Maria. They had just gotten married and moved into a little house on base at Kirtland, Air Force Base, in Albuquerque.

We found this car, a 1968 Monza Coupe, on eBay, on Saturday night and decided to visit this town on Sunday to see it. Back then, GPS units were non-existent, but you could have a GPS program on your computer, so Bobby bought his laptop with him to try to find the place.

We drove out into the country and, once you were passed Albuquerque, there was no traffic and I mean none. You felt like you were “in the middle of nowhere” and you probably were. (See picture.) At times, we wondered if we would ever find the place. The scenes you would see would be mountains, forests and desert depending on the topography you were going through.

Finally, we stopped at a small hamburger joint for lunch. We were the only ones there; nobody else showed up. We sat and ate and got back on the road and never saw another car. (What a refreshing change...)

Soon we arrived in Mountainair. There were, of course, no stoplights in the town, it was so tiny. Then, another car crossed our path. It was a girl driving a 1951 Studebaker looking like it had just been driven off the lot; its only flaw was its slightly faded red paint.

Finally we found the pretty blue Corvair in a used car lot. It was closed because it was Sunday. We stopped at a small convenience store. There, the woman at the register said everything was closed on Sunday except them. Going back to the car lot, we tried to make out what would could about the car through the chain link fence. From what he could see, Bobby liked; so we returned home and he bought it. But after he got possession of it, it sat on

*continued on page 2*

## From your ACC President

*Reflections on slowing down and the joy of simple labors*

**I** hope that everyone is enjoying the summer and able to keep your cool.

By the time you read this, the Branson Night cruise will be most likely be done for this year. Looking into my crystal ball, I know those of us planning to attend, will have had a good time in the Missouri Ozarks.

My summer has been busy but, unfortunately, not with Corvair activities, so much. Since I was unable to attend the CORSA international Convention, I am looking at attending Branson with--or without--my Monza Spyder convertible. The Spyder still needs a tune-up and to do a final adjustment on the shift linkage. I like to use **all** four speeds when I drive, you know.

I have also been engaged in some self-therapy this summer. I have found that it can be quite therapeutic to set aside time just to do “nothing”. I came to this revelation while wet-sanding and an old tool

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**"Corvairs bring friends together."**

**New Mexico adventure** *continued*

his driveway to be covered by snow occasionally and hardly ever driven—see picture [at right]. However, the body was rust-free and in good, restorable condition.

After a few years, Bobby didn't want it any more. He doesn't know how to work on Corvairs and was frustrated with it.

We brought the car home and it sat on our driveway a few years until bought by a friend of ours, from Orlando. Now, he is restoring it and Bob is helping him with the project. It should be finished soon and we'll get the photos to you when it is.

I'm glad there was a happy ending to this story. ■

*Editor's Note: Several years ago, former Arkansas Corvair Club member*

*(and past president) Robert "Bob" Berry and his wife, Lynda, relocated from the Little Rock area to Mountainair, New Mexico. Bob owned a late-model, blue Corvair Monza hardtop that he had lovingly restored. Also, Bob loved the small town of Mountainair and he always spoke with admiration about the community and the location, when he returned to Arkansas to visit family. Could Bob Berry's car be the same 1968 Monza coupe that Laura Bentz describes in her interesting tale about finding a Corvair in Mountainair? It seems too odd a coincidence for it not to be Bob and Lynda's Corvair.*



**Pictured at left is the 1968 Monza coupe that was purchased in Mountainair, NM, in 2004.**



**President's message** *continued*

box that I picked up from my dad. I was removing paint the old-fashioned way (sanding), and I realized it is nice to sand, to think about nothing, and simply to wait to see that shiny, paint-free metal.

As the philosopher and teacher, Socrates wrote, "The unexamined life is not worth living." We can find solitude and happiness in reflection, but we must make time to reflect.

So I will wrap-up this tome by encouraging each of you to try some self-therapy and reflection. You never know what you might learn or reveal about yourself.

And, remember...drive those Corvairs!

Best regards,

*Keith LaCrosse*

**Happy Birthday**  
to our ACC associates  
born in September.

Todd Sanders  
September 4

Larry Claypool  
September 8

Dee Jones  
Stew MacLeod  
September 11

Al Embrey  
September 16

Pat Drannon  
September 24

Butch Chapman  
September 27

Hazel Latture  
September 28

**Happy Anniversary**  
to

Bill & Pam MacSorley  
September 4 (22 years)

Aaron & Mary Swift  
September 9 (31 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** ..... Travis Geaslin  
Michael Kuizin  
Julie Pearce  
David Schneider

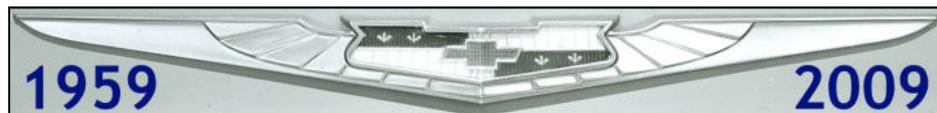
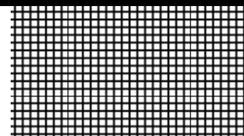
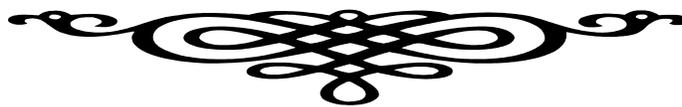
**Due August** ..... Don Ahrens  
John Dailey  
Lewis Pace  
Kermit Parks

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

## ACC July Meeting Minutes



JB King



The Arkansas Corvair Club met at Just Like Mom's restaurant, on Kiehl Avenue, in Sherwood, on Tuesday, July 20.

However, due to time constraints for publishing, the minutes from the July meeting are **not** printed in their usual space, on page 3.

The July meeting minutes may be included as a separate insert in this newsletter. If the meeting minutes are not inserted on a separate page, the July minutes will be published in your September newsletter. ■

## Corvair registry for 1961 and 1962 Monza cars and station wagons with factory cloth upholstery

A new Corvair registry is being organized for models of the 1961 and 1962 Monza with factory cloth interior option.

Monza cloth interiors were only available for these two model years in the Monza 4-door (Model 969) and the 1962 Monza station wagon (Model 935).

The purpose of the new registry is to locate and record any existing

1961 and 1962 Monza with factory cloth interiors, to document the unique features of these interiors, and to collect relevant data, such as VIN, body plate details, and photographs of these vehicles.

For more information, contact Wade Lanning, with CORSA chapter 232; 8015 Driftwood Dr, Prince George, VA 23875. Phone - 804 861-5748; Email - [WBLanning@comcast.net](mailto:WBLanning@comcast.net). ■



## WELCOME TO RAFEECORVAIR.COM

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Available 7 days a week at **918 753-2486**. We're glad to answer any questions you may have. E-mail: [rafee@rafeecorvair.com](mailto:rafee@rafeecorvair.com); no charge for advice.

We are a full-time parts and service shop for your Vair: whether you want to keep it stock or modify it to gain performance, Rafee can do it: complete restoration and full line of rebuilding services, powder-coating and chrome. We stock a large selection of new, used, and some NOS parts. We carry durable gaskets that are custom made for Rafee Corvair. All of our parts are exact reproductions for easy installation. Sick and tired of paying high prices for parts to keep your ride going? Why not give us a try? Here are some examples of our great prices:

60-9 all, engine harness, \$74.25

60-4 engine shroud seal, 4 pieces, heavy duty, \$16.25

60-9 thick cork valve cover gaskets, \$6.50/pair

60-9 oil pan gasket, thick cork or aluminum, \$6.25

TRW forged pistons, \$295

7-mm sparkplug wires, blue / black / red, \$26.55

61-4 chrome gas cap with key, \$17.88

60-9 differential top cover gasket, cork, \$4.25

Universal HP Accel coil, \$28.25

63-9 mirror with Chevy bow-tie, \$27.80

60-9 rod bearings, std or .010, \$54.98

Correct roller rockers for your Vair, \$309

(Prices subject to change)

We carry Soffseal weather strips, KYB, Hastings rings, Taylor wires in various colors, tissue dispensers all years, mirrors all years, Isky cams new and reground, cam gears stock and HP, brake shoes, disc brake kits, correct fan belts, carburetor kits cars and turbo, turn-signal switches, turn signal levers, grommets, oil filters, Viton O-rings, clutch cables all years, and many more. We accept PayPal and all major credit cards. We offer discounts to clubs.



# On the Air

Arkansas Corvair Club  
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*“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 17**, at 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:** Keith LaCrosse, 26 Woodlawn Drive, Beebe, AR 72012, 501 882-5040.

**Vice-President:** Bill Smith, 3034 Donnell Ridge Rd, Apt 328, Conway, AR 72034, 501 499-6676.

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

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

**Elected Board:** Allan Embrey, 501 834-5373; Joe Espejo, 501 834-0806; Clyde Jones, 870 429-6789; Aaron Swift, 501 490-2448.

**Appointed Board:** Pending.

### Committee Chairs

**Membership:** Elvis King

**Publicity:** Bill Smith

**Newsletter Editor:** Bill Smith, 3034 Donnell Ridge Rd, Apt 328, Conway, AR 72034, 501 499-6676.

### Newsletter Advertising:

Non-members and businesses:  
\$150/year full page; \$100-½ page;  
\$50-¼ page.

**Program & Events:** Open

**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.