

# On the Air

Newsletter of the Arkansas Corvair Club ■ CORSA Chapter 722

November 2010

Volume 23, Issue 11

## Technical Tips

*Potential problems with mechanical fuel pumps*

Elvis King

*At the monthly club meeting, on October 19, Elvis King made a brief technical presentation on the subject of recent problems with mechanical fuel pumps. The information that Elvis shared is from a tech session that he attended, during the Great Plains Corvair Roundup, in Tulsa, September 24-26.*

During his October tech presentation, Elvis described two potential problems with Corvair mechanical fuel pumps. Those problems relate to the need to “disassemble” a new fuel pump and stake the valves, in the valve plate, and potential damage that can occur when a faulty locking bolt is used to secure the fuel pump in the engine.

The primary problem with a new batch of Corvair fuel pumps is *not* with the fabric in the diaphragms, as it was

in prior years.

The current batch of mechanical pumps features a “non-staked, pressed-in valve” that can fall out of its seat when the pump becomes hot, after the engine runs and is shut down for several minutes. In this situation, a “hot soak” condition can ensue and the fuel pump body may become hotter.

Then, when the engine is restarted, and a fresh stream of cool

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## REMINDER

The Arkansas Corvair Club will NOT meet in December. Also, there will not be a December issue of our newsletter, *On the Air*. Warmest holiday wishes from the Editor.

## Maxxis brand tires for Chevrolet Corvairs

*Reprinted from The Four Wheel Independent, September 2010, newsletter of the Central Pennsylvania Corvair Club, CORSA Chapter 170. Original author not identified.*

There is good news for those of you who have your Corvairs for the enjoyment of driving them on stock steel wheels. We have harangued [our club members] many times about the life threatening danger of driving on old tires (10 years or more qualify). As some of you may know, P185x80x13 have been dropped by most manufacturers, even from Asia. However, those of us who do drive and plan to continue to do so have kept an eye on the situation for some time.

Thanks to Larry Claypool, we have become aware of a Taiwanese tire brand, named Maxxis. Presently, to the best of our knowledge, the Maxxis brand is the only alternative to Coker brand tires. (more than \$150 each).

The good news is that after discussions with Universal Vintage Tire,  
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**"Corvairs bring friends together."**

**Mechanical fuel pumps** *continued*

gasoline runs through the pump, the cooler gas can cause a valve to shrink and drop out of its seat. To fix this condition, you are advised to disassemble the pump and stake both valves to prevent them from falling out of their seats.

The second technical tip about fuel pumps relates to a problem with the tapered locking bolt that secures the fuel pump in the engine. This problem results from the fact that GM used at least two different suppliers to manufacture this bolt.

Some of the bolts (the good ones) display a small raised or embossed "L" on the hex head. These bolts have the

correct taper to seat properly in the dimple in the pump base.

The bolts that do not display the raised the "L", have too sharp of a taper and can punch through the base casting and hit the pump plunger rod. You don't want this to happen.

If the locking bolt for your fuel pump does not show the "L", the solution is to grind a small amount off the tip of the bolt. Grinding the bolt will shorten and blunt the end sufficiently for it to fit snugly against the wall of the dimple.

With these simple modifications, you will enhance the reliability of your mechanical fuel pump and stave off a potentially disabling failure on the

**Maxxis tires for Corvairs** *continued*

south of Hershey on Pennsylvania 743, we learned that they have acquired some stock of the Maxxis tires and are offering them at \$89.00 each. The 13-inch tire for Corvairs is the **Maxxis MA-1**, 185/80R13, 5/8 inch whitewall tire.

Tire specifications for Maxxis MA-1:

- SKU:** U579819
- Construction:** Poly/Steel
- Load Capacity:** 1323 @ 35 psi
- Overall Diameter:** 24.70 inches
- Tread Width:** 5.10 inches

For Corvair folks in Pennsylvania,

Maxxis tires can be purchased from Universal Vintage Tire. Located in Hershey, Pennsylvania, the mission of Universal Vintage Tire is to provide a full line of tires to compliment all of the finest antique and classic automobiles in the world.

For more about Maxxis tires, visit the Web site of Universal Vintage Tire at [www.universaltire.com](http://www.universaltire.com), or see the manufactures Web site at <http://www.maxxis.com>.

Founded in Taiwan in 1967, Maxxis distributes its products in approximately 170 countries. ■

**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 **November**.

- Past Due**..... Gary Higgins  
Betty Jackson  
Jerald McKown  
Lewis Pace  
Jerry Pentzer

- Due Nov**..... Larry Drannon  
Bill Dulin  
Hank Wangle

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

Happy Birthday to our ACC associates born in December.

Hank Wangle  
December 3

Cathy Smith  
December 4

Don Ahrens (49 years)  
December 5

Mike Shroyer  
December 6 (67 years)

Cole Claypoll  
December 12 (15 years)

Mary Campbell  
December 17

C. B. Lunsford  
December 20

Alfred Via  
December 29 (82 years)

Happy Anniversary to Kermit & Jennifer Parks  
December 22 (9 years)

THE REVOLUTIONARY  
**Corvair**

BY CHEVROLET  
WITH THE ENGINE IN THE REAR WHERE IT BELONGS  
IN A COMPACT CAR! ★★ ★

## ACC October Meeting Minutes



JB King

The Arkansas Corvair Club met at Just Like Mom's restaurant, on Kiehl Avenue, in Sherwood, on Tuesday, October 19.

The meeting was called to order by president, Keith LaCrosse. Keith welcomed new ACC member, Mike Winn, owner of Custom European Classics, to our October meeting and to our CORSA chapter.

The minutes from the September meeting were read and approved as published in the October newsletter. Elvis King reported that our club has

\$1,547.89 in the treasury.

### Old Business

Al Embrey reported that the cast-aluminum club license plaques should be available at the next meeting, in November. The price for the plaques is \$35 each.

### New Business

Keith reported that he was contacted by a man at the former Blytheville Air Force Base, regarding news that a group in Blytheville will sponsor a parade and car show in the summer of 2011. They want to feature the Corvair in the show and are asking our club if we will participate and bring as many cars as possible. Members agreed that this sounds like an ideal opportunity to promote the Corvair in northeast Arkansas. Keith stated that

get more details and share information with us as it becomes available.

Bill Smith stated that he intends to create a 2011 Corvair Club calendar. He asked members to provide Corvair photos. Also, central Arkansas members discussed plans for meeting on Saturday, November 6, to take photos for the calendar. If you have a digital photo to submit for the new calendar, contact Bill as soon as possible. His e-mail and phone number are listed on page 4.

Elvis King gave a brief technical presentation. See page 1 of this newsletter for details.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

JB King



## 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.

### November Meeting

The ACC will meet Tuesday, **November 16**, 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.