

On the Air

Newsletter of the Arkansas Corvair Club ■ CORSA Chapter 722

June 2011

Volume 24, Issue 6

How to determine if gasoline contains ethanol

Here is an easy, do-it-yourself test

by Elvis King

I think at least a couple of us in the Arkansas Corvair Club have experienced “the corrosive effects of ethanol” in our Corvairs, due to the current politically-inflicted alcohol in our gasoline supply--kinda like the Volstead Act in reverse.

Instead of forbidding Americans to consume alcohol, the government is forcing our automobile engines to consume it! ACC member Stew MacLeod told me that both of the Grosse Jet all-metal inlet valves in his carburetors had recently failed. He had to replace them with the standard needle-and-seat valves.

The same thing happened to the YH carburetor on my turbo project. Both sets of inlet valves were installed many years ago and had performed very well in the past. However, recently the carburetor bowls started flooding. Maybe it's merely a coincidence.

Before driving in the Economy Run event, the folks at the CORSA conventions always seek out fuel from non-ethanol stations. I have a good friend, who is not a car guy, but maintains that ethanol is only filler, along for the ride. “If there is 10-percent alcohol and you get 10-percent less gas mileage, just

what does the alcohol do?”

The Web site www.pure-gas.org lists stations, state-by-state, that advertise non-ethanol gasoline for sale. But how does someone know if what they're selling is truly pure gas? I found an easy test procedure, described by Jim Howe, in the “Howe-To” section of the June 2011 issue of *Hemmings Motor News*. He says it is a good idea to test the fuel, even if the station advertises theirs to be ethanol-free.

The test is simple. A tall container--like some olive jars--works best.

- 1) Make a mark on the jar that represents approximately one-tenth of the volume.
- 2) Fill the jar to the mark with water. Fill the remainder of the jar with the gasoline you are testing.
- 3) Shake vigorously, and allow the liquid to settle for a couple of minutes.

If the fuel contains ethanol, the water level will rise noticeably, as the ethanol is absorbed by the water. If the water level stays the same, the fuel is ethanol-free. In both cases, the gasoline that remains will be essentially ethanol-free. I have tested using known ethanol fuel with the result readily apparent. ■



From your ACC President

Our club is healthy and growing because of your participation

It is hard to believe I am embarking on my second year as your Club President. I am humbled and honored by the trust you, the club, have put in me. Thank you!

Boy, the year has flown by! It has been a fun time personally, and the club is doing well from my point of view. Attendance at the monthly meetings has seen a slight increase--I know, you all are just showing up to see how many mistakes I will make. Your turn is coming!

I would like to encourage not only continued attendance at the monthly meetings but continued participation in our club activities. I would also like to hear any ideas anyone may have as to any new or different activity you may like the club to participate in. Get the ideas out there at a meeting and get the ball rolling if there is something you want to plan for a club activity.

Any time you get a chance to talk “Corvairs” with other folks, invite them to join the club. They don't need a Corvair to be members, just an interest. We need each of you to

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"Corvairs bring friends together."

Our members write...

Recent letter from a Corvair Club member

We are happy when members write to us to share news about their lives or to express thoughts about Corvair events and activities.

Letter from Jim Latture

May 26, 2011

Enclosed is [the] check for our [membership] dues. Hazel and I enjoy the newsletter each month. I wish we were physically able to make the trip to Blytheville. It sounds like a great trip. I was stationed there at the air base for a short time in 1942. It would be good to see the changes.

We have a farmers' market in the

new pavilion in the Transportation Plaza [100 Broadway] each Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Saturday is a big day with a band and entertainment. Let me know if you want to come over and show cars some Saturday and I will see if I can get it set up. It is open from 6:00 to 11:00 a.m. The band usually plays from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. As you know, there are a lot of good eating places, or I could get something at the country club. They have a good brunch on Sunday.

It would be good to see all of our Corvair friends.

Regards to all,

Jim & Hazel Latture

From your ACC president *continued*

recruit new members to keep our club thriving.

You will find my phone number is on the back cover of this newsletter. Give me a call with your ideas. I am up before the sun every day. Lastly, drive those Corvairs.

Best regards and God bless,

Keith LaCrosse



Happy Birthday
to our ACC associates
born in July.

Clyde Jones
July 1

Aaron Swift
July 4

Barbara Koenig
July 16

Happy Anniversary
to
Joe & Cristel Espejo
July 1 (50 years)

Frank & Mary Campbell
July 5 (45 years)

Stew & Ronnie MacLeod
July 7 (37 years)

John & Barbara Coffey
July 9 (50 years)

Congratulations and best wishes to Stuart Levy

Everyone in the Arkansas Corvair Club extends congratulations to Stuart Levy, son of Larry and Debbie Levy. Recently, Stuart graduated from Benton High School where he excelled in athletics as a catcher on the baseball team. Stuart will continue academic study and baseball pursuits at Arkansas State University, in Jonesboro. While playing at Benton High for three years, Stuart earned division 7A All-Conference honors and, in 2009, he was a member of Team USA Midwest Region. We wish for a bright future for Stuart and hope to see him playing in the major leagues one day. ■

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 **June**.

Past Due Danny Bokamper
Jim Davis
Travis Geaslin
Buddy Murray
Julie Pearce
Mike Shroyer
Steve Simmons

Due June Frank Campbell

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

ACC May Meeting Minutes



JB King

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

The meeting was called to order by president Keith LaCrosse.

Attending were 28 members and one guest. Our guest, Jeff Scofield recently obtained a 1964 Corvair sedan. Jeff was introduced by his father-in-law, ACC founding member Dave Sanders.

The minutes from our April meeting were read and approved as published in the May newsletter. ACC treasurer

Elvis King reported a balance of \$2,144.40 in our club treasury.

Old Business

Keith reminded members to register for the Blytheville car show, June 10-11. Members from central Arkansas who want to caravan to Blytheville are planning to meet at the Valero gas station, in Beebe, at the first Beebe exit (past Cabot), on Friday, June 10. We will leave, from Beebe, at 10:00 a.m.

Joe Espejo showed a display sign that he had made for his Corvair listing its features. Joe will use the sign when displaying his car at shows. The cost is \$35 per sign. Others who want to order signs for their Corvairs can contact Joe for information, 501 834-0806.

New Business

Al Embrey offered a motion for the club to donate \$100 to the American

Cancer Society, when we visit Blytheville for the Cars & Cycles Against Cancer event. Clyde Jones seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

Todd Sanders reminded members that the 2011 Super Summer Cruise & Show 'n Shine, at Shepherd of the Hills, in Branson, Missouri, is scheduled for August 11-13. You can find Branson Summer Cruise applications at www.supersummercruise.com.

Announcements

Elvis King announced that the club has one cast-aluminum license plaque available for \$35.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

JB King



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On the Air

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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.

June Meeting

The ACC will meet Tuesday, **June 21**, 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.

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.

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.