

On the Air

Newsletter of the Arkansas Corvair Club ■ CORSA Chapter 722

August 2012

Volume 25, Issue 8

Remembering Allan Embrey, loyal Corvair devotee and long-time member of the Arkansas Corvair Club

On Monday, July 9th, our Arkansas Corvair Club lost another long-time and loyal member with the somewhat sudden death of Allan (Big Al) Embrey, of North Little Rock. Al died from serious illness while hospitalized at the Springhill Baptist Hospital, in North Little Rock.

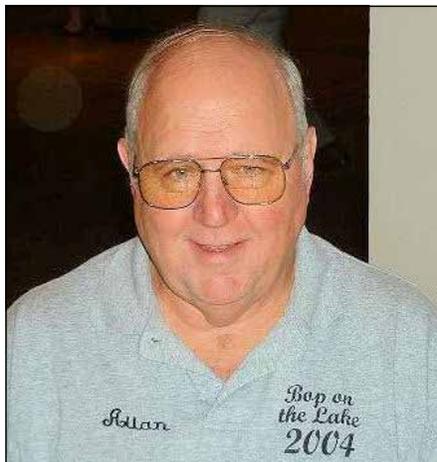
We do not have records to show the year that Al joined our Arkansas CORSA chapter. However, we can say that he was an active Corvair club member for approximately two decades. During those years, he supported the club by attending monthly meetings and activities at many locations across Arkansas.

Also, Al attended conventions sponsored by the Corvair Society of America (CORSA). Several members have warm memories of attending the 2006 CORSA convention with Al, in Buffalo, New York.

For those of you who were ACC

members in 1996, you may recall the good work that Al performed to organize a navigation rally for our Corvair Club.

As documented in the April 1996 issue of our club newsletter, *On the Air*, the title of the news item read, "Road Rally Recap: 'Big Al' marshals a splendid event for the Arkansas Cor-



vair and MOPAR clubs." That news item, written by the late Robert "Bob" Berry, described the good work of Al Embrey and Betty Jackson to organize and host what was described as an "excellently planned and beautifully executed rally."

The March 24 navigation road rally involved members of the Arkansas Corvair Club and the Pentastar Madness MOPAR Club. With his broad admiration for all products of the American auto industry, Al maintained memberships in both Arkansas auto clubs. The 1996 rally featured 12 cars: 6 Corvairs and 6 MOPAR vehicles. Finishing first in the Corvair category, on that March Sunday, were Larry and Debbie Levy.

For those of you who may not have been familiar with Al's talents, you should know that he excelled at many skills required in the auto restoration hobby. Al was a capable and competent mechanic. However, beyond his mechanical skills, Al was very skilled at auto painting and exterior refinishing. Also, he was masterful at auto upholstery, having reupholstered his 1960 Desoto sedan and his 1965 Corvair Monza convertible. Through the years,

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August meeting will be at U. S. Pizza in North Little Rock

PLEASE NOTE: The Arkansas Corvair Club will hold our August meeting at a new location. On Tuesday, August 21st, we will meet that the **U. S. Pizza Company** restaurant, at 4001 McCain Park Drive. This location is just off Warden Road, on the McCain Mall side of Highway 67/167.

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"Corvairs bring friends together."

Remembering Al Embrey *continued*

other members of the Corvair club relied on Al to help with various restoration tasks.

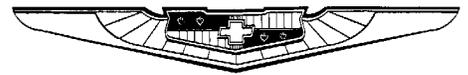
Some of you may not know that Al was not just a "car guy." Al was a gentleman of varied interests and pursuits. One of those pursuits was dancing. Al was an active member of the Little Rock Bop Club, a local dance club. Members of the Bop Club acknowledged Al's death with a brief tribute and photo on the club's Web site. Also, several Bop Club members left words of condolence in the guest book on the Web site for Moore's Jacksonville Fu-

neral Home. Typical of the sentiment expressed about Al's passing are the following words from Nola Martin: "Allan was a wonderful man and a special friend whom I will miss terribly. I have never had such a wonderful dance partner and most likely never will again. Loved him to pieces. So sad to lose him so soon."

Members of the Arkansas Corvair Club add our personal condolences to those expressed by members of the Little Rock Bop Club, the CAMS Car Club, and dozens of others who knew Al and were grateful for his friendship. Rest in peace, Allan Lee Embrey. You are missed. ■

ACC member seeking part for 1964 Corvair

Frank Campbell, of White Hall, is seeking a steering box assembly for a 1964 Corvair Monza. Contact Frank at **870 247-1791** or send e-mail to 64monzaconv@gmail.com.



ACC member Betty Jackson shares a "Big Al" Embrey memory

My very first experience with attending an estate sale was with Big Al. His aunt, in Kansas, had passed away and Al asked me to drive him to Kansas for the estate sale.

So, off we went. Al brought along a grocery bag full of Little Debbie snacks to sustain him during the trip.

We arrived at the site of the sale, which was his Aunt's home place. It was a small wooden-frame house of considerable age. The goods to be

auctioned were spread all around the home, including many cardboard boxes filled with items. Before the sale, auction buyers looked through boxes and organized them by moving items from box to box, so they could bid on contents they wanted.

I was about 20 years younger then and a whole lot more naive. The sale was well attended and fun to watch. At the end, there were two

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Happy Birthday to our ACC associates born in September.

Todd Sanders
September 4

Larry Claypool
September 8

Dee Jones
Stew MacLeod
September 11

Jackie Winn
September 17

Pat Drannon
September 24

Butch Chapman
September 27

Hazel Latture
September 28

Happy Anniversary to

Bill & Pam MacSorley
September 4 (23 years)

Aaron & Mary Swift
September 9 (32 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.....None

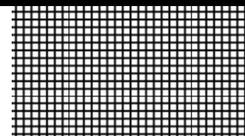
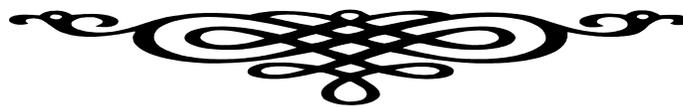
Due AugDon Ahrens
Kermit Parks

Please disregard if you've already paid.
Thank you 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 17.

The meeting was called to order by president Keith LaCrosse. There were 35 people in attendance.

The minutes from our June meeting were read and approved as published in the July newsletter.

Old Business

There was no old business discussed.

New Business

Keith reported that Wes Mellies, with the Heart of America Corvair Owners Association, CORSA Chapter 640, in Kansas City, Missouri, contacted

him stating that the KC club was submitting a bid to host the 2014 CORSA convention in Branson, Missouri, September 29 - October 4. Wes asked if our club would consider assisting with the convention, if the bid is accepted. Clyde Jones moved that we agree to help the Kansas City club. Bill Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Tech Topic

Following a report of a harmonic balancer separation from club member Larry Drannon, Elvis King brought a mockup of the rear of a Corvair engine to demonstrate how separation of the pulley from the hub--with failure of the rubber bond used for dampening--can cause the pulley to grind a gash in the oil filter and spew hot oil throughout the engine compartment.

Elvis reminded members were that a failed harmonic balancer must always be replaced with another bal-

ancer and not use a less-expensive solid pulley as a substitute for the balancer. Replacing the balancer with a solid pulley can damage the crankshaft in 164 cubic-inch engines. Also, Elvis showed a 90-degree AC/smog filter adaptor to demonstrate how the oil filter is positioned on such cars.

Lastly, Elvis showed an "adapt-a-bolt" replacement for stock oil filter bolt that allows installation of an oil pressure sending unit. Along with the aftermarket adapt-a-bolt, he showed a stock bolt to compare with a second stock bolt that he drilled and tapped to fabricate a homemade adapt-a-bolt.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

JB King



Remembering Al Embrey -- our Corvair friend



Betty remembers Big Al *continued*

items left, the aunt's car and her piano. The car went was auctioned first. The piano, inside the house, was the final item to be sold. When the crowd moved back inside to bid on the piano, the living room floor came loose from the walls and collapsed to the ground.

Following the sale, the family and friends--17 people in all--went to a local restaurant for dinner. Unfortunately, the restaurant managed to lose the group's reservation. Restaurant staff hustled and found seats for members of th group at tables scattered throughout the restaurant. Finally, everyone in the group was seated at a table, except the 17th person, me! This event showed where I stood in the family food chain.

All in all, you couldn't help but love Al Embrey for his generosity and kindness; and I did, as the great and true friend that he was to me.

Betty Jackson



On the Air

Arkansas Corvair Club
P.O. Box 627
Little Rock, AR 72203

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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. Members are evaluating locations to select a new meeting place. Watch for news and details.

August Meeting

The ACC will meet Tuesday, **August 21**, at 7:00 p.m., at U.S. Pizza Company, 4001 McCain Park Dr., in North Little Rock.

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, 501 882-9389.

Vice-President: Clyde Jones, 6789 Saddlebrook Loop, Everton, AR 72633, 870 429-6789.

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.