

Published monthly by The Western Pennsylvania Corvair Club, a chartered chapter of the Corvair Society of America. Letters, articles, commentary, and questions should be directed to the editor: Al Friend, 3677 Forbes Trail Dr. Murrysville, Pa. 15668 (412) 325-2588.

1. OUR LAST MEETING (SEPT.)

The Sept. meeting was held at the community room of the Monroeville Mall on Sept. 9. It turned out to be a very pleasant, rather informal affair. We discussed the Corvair Convoy to Meadowcroft Villiage, next years concours, this years Christmas Party, Our Oct. "How to do it autocross", and Denny Hamill gave us a very informitive demonstration of venting carburators to prevent cut-out. Keith Murphy told us about his frustrating experience of trying to buy a Vair battery at Sears. For early & late model batteries try Schulhof Tire Service Co. 415 Lysle Blvd. in McKeesport. They stock both types, and they sell for \$20 or so, with a 3 yr. guarantee. Walt Matenkosky informed us that J.C. Taylor is no longer accepting Corvairs under their antique policy, due to the high theft rate. TAKE HEED!

Due to unusual working hours and night school, Chris Smith felt it necessary to resign his post as club secretary. Hazel Moore has been appointed secretary pro tem for the remainder of the year by president Bates Murphy.

Treasurer, Mike Sullivan informed us that we had \$164.56 in the treasury after all bills have been paid. We cleared about \$250 on our first concours, not including the tee shirts and bumper stickers, which is being treated as a separate item. Our add appeared in the last CORSA Communiques, and several mail orders have already been received. Would you believe, WE NOW HAVE 120 MEMBERS!!

2. OUR NEXT MEETING (OCT.)

See you on Thursday, Oct. 14, at 8 PM at the General Motors Training Center in Monroeville. THIS IS A VERY SPECIAL MEETING, for several reasons:

- (1) We have many important items to discuss.
- (2) This meeting occurs exactly one year after our first, very successful, meeting at the training center.
- (3) Al Thomas may be transferred in December, possibly making this the last meeting hosted by a very good friend of ours, and a friend of the Corvair.
- (4) This meeting will feature movies of our concours, the national convention, and Al Thomas' slide presentation of "The First Steel City Concours".

Try to arrive at least a half hour early for our usual parking lot Corvair bull session. If the weather is good, bring out the showpiece and show it off one more time before it goes to bed for the winter! BUT ABOVE ALL LET'S HAVE A REAL GOOD TURNOUT AS A FINAL TRIBUTE TO A VERY FINE GENTLEMAN AND A GOOD FRIEND.

3. Let's improve our communications. Clip this list of officers and board members, and keep it in your wallet or purse. If you have an idea or a complaint for or about the club, call and discuss it with one or more of these people.

OFFICERS:

President - Bates Murphy 327-3472  
Vice President - George Douglas 727-7058  
Secretary Pro Tem - Hazel Moore 327-4437  
Treasurer - Mike Sullivan 639-3857

BOARD:

John Costantino 295-2575  
Dave Fabyonic 327-7361  
John Greenwald 795-5719  
Denny Hamill 741-4325  
Walt Matenkosky 834-8114

4. WPCG AUTOCROSS CLINIC, AND PICNIC  
SUNDAY, OCT. 17, at 1 PM, NORTH PARK SWIMMING POOL LOT

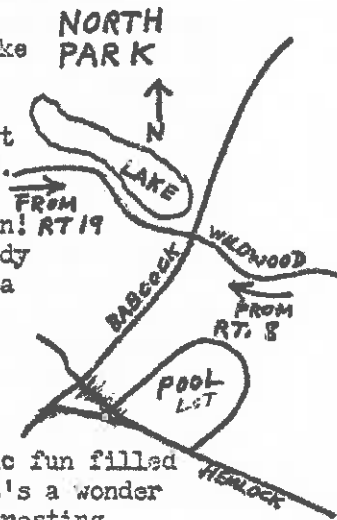
Dave Fabyonic has worked very hard on this event, so let's show up in huge numbers to show our appreciation. Here's your chance to learn the sport with plenty of help from capable friends, and no pressure. Open only to our club and guests who drive Vairs, of course. Rather than the usual \$6 for three runs, we will charge 50¢ - \$1 per run. This is only to recover our costs, therefore the better the turnout, the lower the charge. There will be no trophies or classes and timing will be by stop watch. Our best drivers will be on hand to guide, teach, & critique. The course will be clearly marked with lime, and passengers will be permitted for instructional or observation purposes.

Bring a complete picnic basket since facilities are near-by.

Arrive no later than 1 o'clock, or as early as 11 AM if you would like to help lay out the course. (Call Dave at 327-7361 if you can help). Arrive with a minimum of 30 lbs. of air in your front tires, and of course more in the rear. Maintain the front to rear differential that is printed on the inside of your glove box. **BRING HELMETS IF YOU CAN.**

SPECIAL DEAL FOR THE LADIES:

You get a free run after your hubby or boy friend makes his first run! RT 19 Jan Fabyonic, Shirley Murphy, Jane Hamill, & Carole Friend are already committed. As usual, our events go rain or shine. Come on out for a good time with good friends.



5. THE MEADOWCROFT VILLIAGE CORVAIR CONVOY

Hats off to Wayne and Judy Jones for planning such a fantastic fun filled tour. Everyone enjoyed the challenging, twisting, turning drive (It's a wonder the water-pumpers made it)! Meadowcroft has got to be the most interesting historic attraction in Western Penna. But, above all, Drover's Inn was pure good eat'n delight!

In spite of the rain, 35 people and 12 cars made the trip. The pioneer buildings and their contents were fascinating, and our (good Looking) guide was very informative. Here are a few highlights as I remember them:

Bob Martzo and wife arrived in a water-pumper and asked if they could go along if they drove backwards.

John Sebbens suggested "ralph nader FCR DOG CATCHER" be used for a future bumper sticker.

While sitting in the one room school house, Ed Pezel Jr. recalled the time when he made the teacher a new Hickory stick, but he was the first one she used it on! I'm sure you deserved everything you got, Ed!!!

Bill Artzberger is taking a photography course and our convoy was his first project. We expect to see the results at the meeting Bill.

When we crossed into West Virginia the CBers. stopped saying ten-four and starting saying ten-fur.

When a women's carriage was pointed out to us, Dave Fabyonic mentioned that you could tell because it had wide seats!!

Jan Schoeneman took several group pictures of the whole gang. I'm sure she would be willing to take firm orders for reprints at the meeting.

While observing the clever gadgets in the blacksmith shop, Bill Artzberger mentioned that if those pioneer people weren't so smart - we wouldn't be here!

Would you believe, Judy Jones had family committments, and had to miss it, after working so hard planning it.

May I be the first to suggest that we do this one again next year. Don't change a thing except the weather. Hopefully, Judy and many others who missed this super trip will be able to make it next year.

6. WPCG member Tom Watt was kind enough to write out this fascinating true story for me. TAKE NOTE SCOTT SMATHERS, THIS STORY SHOULD APPEAR IN THE CORSA COMMUNIQUES FOR THE WHOLE WORLD TO READ.

About Sept. of 1970, I was working as a project technician for Pittsburgh Corning R & D Center. My job took me to Texas A & M University. A team of test researchers there, headed by a man whose name escapes me now (a Ph. D.), was testing our company's version of the now famous highway crash barriers. This same chief scientist was, at the same time, in charge of testing Corvairs, on the same site, an abandoned airfield, for - you guessed it - Ralph Nader.

Curiosity had its way and I asked "what are your findings on the Corvair?" His reply was: "I'm to submit my report at the end of this month - I know he's expecting a negative report, but I can't write one on the Corvair, I don't know what I'm going to tell him: it's one of the best cars we've ever tested."

I can't relate a post script to this story, as I never again had the opportunity of communicating with the man, but I can honestly say that all I've said is true. Let's get the poor man's Porsche back into production!

Tom Watt, WPCG

7. THE THREE RIVERS INVITATIONAL AUTOCROSS by Denny Hamill

Well, we could have done better (60th of 67 teams), but we need more practice and more cars in better classes. See you on Oct. 17th. at North Park! The event was almost flawless and run on what Jay Miller of T.A.G. called a "brisk Course". The fact that the fastest time (Cobra 427 - 46.941 sec.) was separated from the slowest by 22.166 sec. (32% slower) indicates how correct he was. The top ten cars (out of 210 entries) were comprised of 2 Cobras, 3 Vettes, 3 Formula Cars, 1 Mini, and 1 Sunbeam Tiger - they all ran under 50 sec.

Our team was made up of 2 cars (Stinger in, would you believe, A-Modified & 66, 110, automatic, coupe) and 3 drivers (Keith Lageman & Denny Hamill in the Stinger, and Dave Fabyonic in the 66. Our best times netted the following results:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>CAR</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>PLACE IN CLASS</u>	<u>PLACE OVERALL</u>
Lageman	Stinger	57.422	12	113
Hamill	Stinger	53.713	10	44
Fabyonic	66 Coupe	60.928	18	169

Anyway you look at it, we left a lot to be desired. So - more practice, more drivers, better cars - and next year? Oh, one last thing, we can say our tee shirts work, not only on Porsches (we beat all but one) but on Corvettes (beat 20), Ferrari (beat 1), & Datsun Z Cars (beat 9). We all had a "tire eating" good time, and promise better results in 77!

P.S. Although we admit that the Stinger is a very sophisticated car, it should not be classed so as to have to run against Cobras & heavily modified Vettes. A quick analysis of horsepower to weight ratios will show the futility of us racing against these big - bore machines on a "brisk" course:

<u>CAR</u>	<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>H.P.</u>	<u>H.P. to WEIGHT</u>
Cobra 427	2200	500	4.4 lbs./ H.P.
Cobra 289	2100	350	6.0
Corvette 427	3000	550	5.5
Corvair Stinger	2200	200	11.0

These, very revealing, facts will be brought to the attention of the rules committee prior to the 1977 season opener. All Corvairs with race tires should be in B modified.

JOB WELL DONE TEAM - FROM THE MANY MEMBERS WHO WATCHED YOU RACE, AND I'M SURE FROM THE ENTIRE WPCG MEMBERSHIP.

ALSO: Jim Artzberger is assembling the necessary pieces to build a Corvair race car. He needs a rust free body, can anyone help?

8. FOR SALE

66 Stage IV Yenko Stinger, Serial # YS-191, Fully restored, Spare parts, Beautiful, \$1200 in engine alone. Keith Lageman, wants to build a wild Vair powered machine.  
276-4879 with offers.

64 conv. good condition, reasonable, Fran Caye 761-8978

68 conv. & 69 cp. Both 110 Monza, automatics, Rough but restorable, \$100 apiece.  
Ray Griffin 834-2861

66 Monza, 4dr, 110, Air, Exc. body, Texas car, 100,000 miles, 7 good tires on wheels,  
offers over \$700 Jerry Nicklaus 265-1082

Many, Many Corvair parts (new & used) including power trains and SPYDER EMBLEMS ETC.  
turbo parts. Would like to sell as a lot for \$225. Dan Hlasnick 243-0247

Two new 65 front fenders Ernest Kish 372-7839

9. THIS, THAT, & EVERYTHING

Three Corvairs appeared in the recent Vintage Chevrolet Show. Isadore Krouse drove down from New Bethlehem with his beautiful late model convertible, Walt & Hazel Moore stopped the show when they arrived in their very unique Corvair Camper, and we displayed our white 64 coupe. They are a great bunch of people and Don Boyer got in many plugs for our club and tee shirt sales on the microphone. It was great to see so many of our members dropping in to support another local club.

According to Old Cars, CORSA is now the fastest growing auto. club in America!

Our founder Ivan Clever has been in bad health for the last few months, but is coming along better now, we've missed you Ivan. If any of you pass by W. Leechburg stop and see Ivan & his many Vairs & parts. Hope to see you at the meeting, Ivan.

Periodically, articles appear in *Old Cars* on the controversial subject of judging cars at meets. This always appears to be a tender area.

I think *Old Cars* should print us some guidelines for both restoring and judging. Then, using this proposed guide, both the car owner and judge would be playing the same game.

With guidelines, the car owner would soon know nearly what to expect from showing his car among the competition. And, the novice judges would not open themselves for such violent criticism.

Such a guide would certainly be helpful and surely make our hobby more enjoyable. How about some help?

Wm. H. Artzberger Jr.  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

national clubs thrash out mutually agreeable rules, procedures, and judging points there's no way we can offer broad, general advice in this area... Ed.

I just received a very exciting letter from Dick Buckelman regarding the soon to be 13 Corvair Driving Shriners. It contains very good news - I'LL TELL YOU ALL ABOUT IT ON OCT 14, AT THE G.M. TRAINING CENTER!!!!!!

I just found out that John Greenwald has also been in the hospital. Here's a get well quick from all of us, John.

Our apologies to member Ed Kelly of Ed Kelly Chevrolet in Clairton. Ed joined back in May but was not announced in the newsletter. Ed has restored a 64 Monza Cp. to better than new condition. It's great to welcome another early model man aboard, and, would we all love to see that car Ed. You've worked very hard on it, so bring it to the meeting for some real Corvair lovers to admire it.

Let me repeat: If you do Corvair Work or sell Corvair parts, drop me a card for some free advertisement in the next newsletter.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Oct 7-10 Hershey

Oct 17 Our autocross clinic & picnic - DON'T MISS IT.

Oct 17 Clarion Autumn Lf. Fest. I. Krous (814)275-3958

Oct 23 & 24 Alleg. Kiski Weekender Rallye G. Douglas 727-7058

Oct 30 TAG's Misc. Dyst. Autocross - Dial CUR-CARS

Nov 21 Alleg. Kiski Rallye - Dial CUR-CARS