

The Pushrod

Volume 08, Issue 10
October 2018



From the Front Seat

Bill Scherer, President



Where has the summer??

I hope you all had a great summer and had fun driving your Corvair.

With the change of the season and the last of the car shows now being over, it's back to our monthly meetings. So, I hope to see you All this coming Sunday, October 28th at 3:00pm at Albanese's.

See you soon, Bill



Richard Bartoshevic of Cudahy and his 1961 Corvair Van. Richard restored this gem to be a camper with a refrigerator. This beauty was on display at the Restore the Lagoon's fourth annual Lagoon Festival in South Milwaukee. To read more about this check out the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel from Wednesday, September 6, 2017.

Treasurer's Report

Patrick Frank, Treasurer



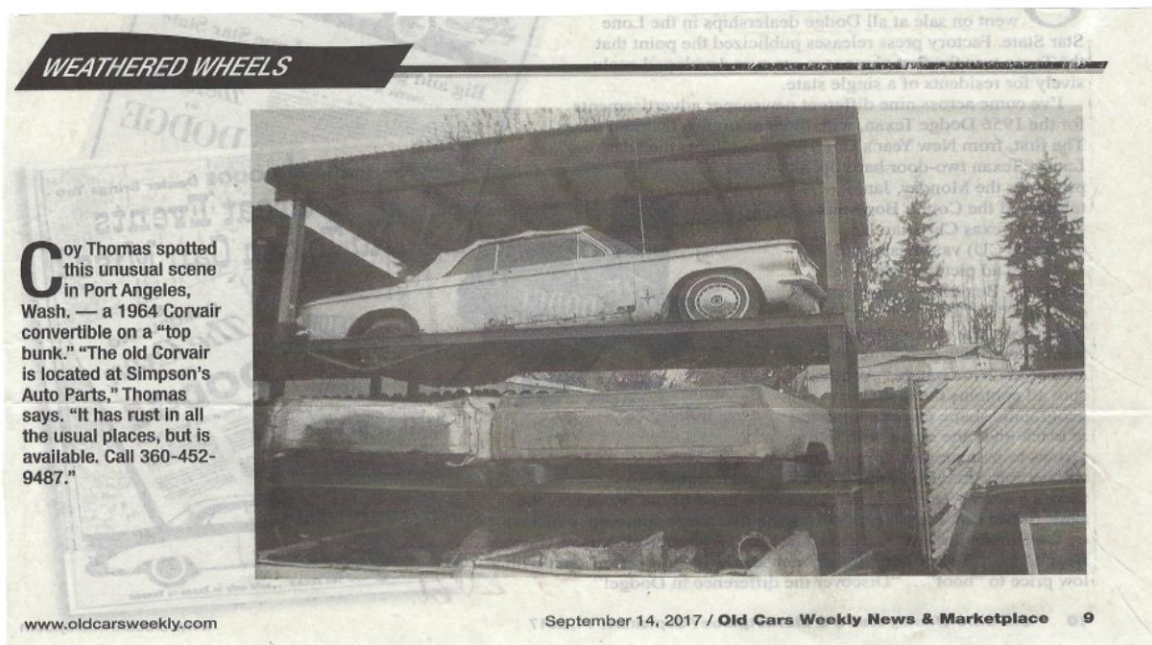
Beginning Balance April 1, 2018	\$ 5,291.51
April Membership Dues	\$ 18.00
May Membership Dues	\$ 18.00
June Membership Dues	\$ 36.00
July Membership Dues	\$ 18.00
Donations	\$ 4.00
Domain & Website Expense	- \$ 20.17
WDFI Taxes	- \$ 10.00
Picnic Expenses	- \$ 110.37
Checking Statement Balance	\$ 5,204.97
Cash on Hand	\$ 40.00
Ending Balance September 30, 2018	\$ 5,244.97

Milwaukee Corvair Club 2018-2019

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Sunshine	'Sophie' Baranowski	262-547-6420
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If you are not a CORSA member, here is your chance. Each new CORSA member will receive a free copy of Corvair Basics, a technical manual for Corvairs. The book contains articles written by experts and covering all aspects of repair, maintenance and restoration for your Corvair. All you have to do, is register prior to December 31, 2018.

Now, for those of you that are already members of CORSA and do not own this book of knowledge, do not fret. Copies are available for purchase at the CORSA website. Visit www.corvair.org and click on the "Merchandise" link for more information.



Thanks Ed – for the great pics and articles

It has been an honor being the Editor of the MCC Pushrod. It is with regret, that I will need to resign from my post. As my role at work, and the demands of my position, have increased dramatically, I have less time to dedicate to the Pushrod. I feel horrible for my delinquency with the publications, these past months. This neglect is not fair to the club. My last publication will be April, 2019. Those interested in assuming the Editor role, please reach out to me as soon as possible, so we can make this a smooth transition.

With Regards
Pam



ASK BOB | BY BOB LUTZ

THE ONE THAT GOT AWAY

LOOKING BACK ON A LIFETIME OF GREAT CARS.

RECENTLY, I WAS ASKED TO DESCRIBE the cars that were my favorites during my roughly 70 years of car ownership. The task required some thought. The most expensive or most exotic or most recently acquired come to mind first, but do they qualify as lifetime favorites?

I've settled on some simple criteria: vehicles that were more than a car, but were also constant sources of pleasure, demanding to be driven for the sheer joy of being in the car. Not coincidentally, those are the ones that stick in the memory—their sounds, smells, and idiosyncrasies easily recalled, despite the passage of many years. They are the ones that were sold or traded, for one reason or another, and their departure is regretted to this day.

The first real favorite was my 1952 MG TD, purchased used in 1955 in Pensacola, Florida, where I underwent Navy-Marine flight training. It accompanied me from base to base, with all my gear crammed into the passenger side. I raced it in SCCA events. If there were no Porsches entered, or they were being poorly driven, I was very competitive.

Fast-forward to 1962, the end of active duty; I was a graduate student at University of California, Berkeley, business school. Logic, in the form of two children, dictated an affordable sedan, but what? I was an avid reader of *Road & Track* and *Sports Cars Illustrated* (later known as *Car and Driver*), smitten by the layout and technology of the Chevrolet Corvair.

The late, great David E. Davis Jr., then a copywriter at the Chevrolet ad agency Campbell Ewald, had crafted a mini-magazine, direct-mail piece aimed squarely at import-car owners. Richly endowed with cutaways and technical

drawings, it described the Corvair basically as a large, affordable four-door Porsche 356.

That masterfully written piece drove me directly to a Chevrolet dealer—several of them. Some tried to sell me a full-size V-8 “for the same amount of money”; others categorically refused to place my special order—a Monza four-door, four-speed manual, 3.55:1 final drive. One dealer, an

MG fan, took my order, and the car arrived after nine endless weeks. It was spectacular; the proportions for that era were unbeatable. The color was a metallic autumn gold.

I loved that car after the first hundred feet. The ergonomics were excellent, the gearing well chosen; 102 hp motivated the relatively light car well. And the engine sound, rumbling from the stern, with a bit of cooling-blower whine thrown in, was magic.

Soon, I couldn't leave it stock. I retrofitted Koni dampers, an EMPI camber-compensator, shorter steering arms for 3.2 turns lock-to-lock, and expensive “cerametallic” brake linings, the poor man's disc brakes. My modest woodworking skills enabled me to clad all the horrible waffled-aluminum surfaces with walnut veneer. The stock instrument cluster gave way to a large, walnut-framed one, featuring a full complement of Stewart-Warner gauges. It was almost Jaguar-esque!

The final modification was to dump the OEM Firestone two-ply “rubberized paper” tires after two blowouts during sustained high-speed driving. Steel-belted Michelin Xs provided more precision, better handling, and much better grip in the wet. I had many an enjoyable impromptu race against European cars of better pedigrees. They were never able to shake it.

Maybe it was because the Corvair was a family-car-cum-sport sedan. Maybe it was because I had so much personal creative effort invested in it. It was my all-time favorite car. Not the best, but my favorite. ■

Bob Lutz has been The Man at several car companies. Ask him about cars, the auto industry, or life in general.

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AFTER THE FIRST
HUNDRED FEET. IT
WAS MY ALL-TIME
FAVORITE.**

Road & Track® (ISSN 0035-7189), (USPS 570-670) VOL. 70, NO. 1, August 2018, is published monthly, with combined issues in December/January and March/April, 10 times per year, by Hearst Communications, Inc., 300 West 57th Street, New York, NY 10019, U.S.A. Steven R. Swartz, President & Chief Executive Officer; William R. Hearst III, Chairman; Frank A. Bennack, Jr., Executive Vice Chairman; Catherine A. Bostron, Secretary. **Hearst Magazines Division:** David Carey, President; John A. Rohan, Jr., Senior Vice President, Finance. © 2018 by Hearst Communications, Inc. All rights reserved. **Trademarks:** Road & Track is registered trademark of Hearst Communications, Inc. Periodicals postage paid at New York, NY, and additional mailing offices. **Editorial and Advertising Offices:** 1595 Eisenhower Place, Ann Arbor, MI 48108. **Subscription Prices:** United States and possessions: \$13.00 for one year; Canada, add \$10.00; all other countries, add \$28.00. **Subscription Services:** Road & Track will, upon receipt of a complete subscription order, undertake fulfillment of that order so as to provide the first copy for delivery by the Postal Service or alternate carrier within 4-6 weeks. **Mailing Lists:** From time to time, we make our subscriber list available to companies who sell goods and services by mail that we believe would interest our readers. If you would rather not receive such offers by postal mail, please send your current mailing label or an exact copy to Mail Preference Service, P.O. Box 37870, Boone, IA 50037. You can also visit preferences.hearstmags.com to manage your preferences and opt out of receiving marketing offers by e-mail. Road & Track assumes no responsibility for unsolicited material. None will be returned unless accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope. **Permissions:** Material in this publication may not be reproduced in any form without permission. **Back Issues:** Back issues are available for purchase in digital format only from our app store of choice. **Reprints:** For information or reprints and eprints, please contact Brian Kolb at Wright's Media, 877-652-5295 or bkolb@wrightsmedia.com. **POSTMASTER:** Send all UAA to CFS. (See DMM 5071.5.2). **NON-POSTAL AND MILITARY FACILITIES:** Send address corrections to Road & Track, P.O. Box 37870, Boone, IA 50037. Printed in the U.S.A. **CANADIAN IDENTIFICATION STATEMENT:** Canada Post International Publications mail product (Canadian distribution) sales agreement no. 40012499. Canadian Registration Number 126018209RT0001. **CUSTOMER SERVICE:** Visit service.roadandtrack.com or write to Customer Service Dept., Road & Track, P.O. Box 37870, Boone, IA 50037 for inquiries/requests, changes of mailing and email addresses, subscription orders, payments, etc.

MARC URBANO

A Bit of Historical Knowledge Related to Old Sayings

Walt Baranowski



- Early aircraft throttles had a ball on the end of it, in order to go full throttle the pilot had to push the throttle all the way forward into the wall of the instrument panel. Hence "balls to the wall" for going very fast.
- In George Washington's days, there were no cameras. One's image was either sculpted or painted. Some paintings of George Washington showed him standing behind a desk with one arm behind his back while others showed both legs and both arms. Prices charged by painters were not based on how many people were to be painted, but by how many limbs were to be painted. Arms and legs are 'limbs,' therefore painting them would cost the buyer more. Hence the expression, 'Okay, but it'll cost you an arm and a leg.' (Artists know hands and arms are more difficult to paint.)
- Personal hygiene left much room for improvement. As a result, many women and men had developed acne scars by adulthood. The women would spread bee's wax over their facial skin to smooth out their complexions. When they were speaking to each other, if a woman began to stare at another woman's face she was told, 'mind your own bee's wax.' Should the woman smile, the wax would crack, hence the term 'crack a smile'. In addition, when they sat too close to the fire, the wax would melt. Therefore, the expression 'losing face.'
- At local taverns, pubs, and bars, people drank from pint and quart-sized containers. A bar maid's job was to keep an eye on the customers and keep the drinks coming. She had to pay close attention and remember who was drinking in 'pints' and who was drinking in 'quarts,' hence the phrase 'minding your 'P's and Q's'.
- Common entertainment included playing cards. However, there was a tax levied when purchasing playing cards that was only applicable to the 'Ace of Spades.' To avoid paying the tax, people would purchase 51 cards instead. Since most games require 52 cards, these people were thought to be stupid or dumb because they weren't 'playing with a full deck.'
- Early politicians required feedback from the public to determine what the people considered important. Since there were no telephones, TV's or radios, the politicians sent their assistants to local taverns, pubs, and bars. They were told to 'go sip some ale and listen to people's conversations and political concerns. Many assistants were dispatched at different times. 'You go sip here' and 'You go sip there.' The two words 'go sip' were eventually combined when referring to the local opinion, and thus we have the term 'gossip.

SPECIAL DATES

October 4 th	Don Chudnow's Birthday
October 20 th	Larry Merlet's Birthday
October 20 th	Andy & Kathy Rominiecki Wedding Anniversary
October 26 th	Jim & Laurie Kasten Wedding Anniversary
October 28 th	Ron Schlicht's Birthday
October 28 th	Angela Nemec's Birthday
October 31 st	Larry Fry's Birthday
November 6 th	John & Marie Romppainen Wedding Anniversary
November 8 th	Sandra Alonzo's Birthday
November 28 th	Bill & Pam Scherer Wedding Anniversary
November 29 th	Bill Scherer's Birthday
December 1 st	Ron Kolb's Birthday
December 8 th	Gail Stranc's Birthday
December 16 th	Kim Nichols' Birthday
December 21 st	Patrick & Laura Frank Wedding Anniversary
December 21 st	Laurie Kasten's Birthday

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, October 28th 3:00 pm
Monthly meeting at Albanese's.

Sunday, December 2nd 3:00 pm
Monthly meeting at Albanese's.

Sunday, January 20th 3:00 pm
Monthly meeting at Albanese's

Saturday, February 2nd 5:30 pm
49th Anniversary Dinner at Albanese's

Sunday, February 24th 3:00 pm
Monthly meeting & Sweets Auction at
Albanese's

Sunday, March 25th 3:00 pm
Monthly meeting & Nominations at Albanese's

If any MCC members would like to receive a copy of the current Club Directory, please reach out to Pam Scherer at MCCPushrod@gmail.com

The Milwaukee Corvair Club is an affiliate club of: The Corvair Society of America (CORSА) www.corvair.org, and encourages individual membership

