



Vairious Times



CORSA Chapter 982

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Through The Gears

Instead of writing about lots of other Corvair topcis, Pres. Fred wanted this newsletter to be mostly about the upcoming EconoRun, here in La Conner.

An Invitation to all EconoRun Participants

To all those who are coming down to beautiful LaConner and Skagit Valley: If you can get here by later Friday afternoon, you can join the others at our house in Mount Vernon. (It is on the road just outside of LaConner.) We are having an **ice cream social and garage open house**. Some members have been here before, but I've added one or two old cars for your viewing pleasure. Our latest addition is a 1932 Cadillac LaSalle Town Coupe. Plus there's always the choice between Vanilla, Chocolate or Strawberry ice cream!

Hope to see everyone Friday late afternoon and evening.

Steve Hammatt
16593 McLean Rd
Mount Vernon WA 98273 USA
360-661-6060



April 12 Meeting

Angel of the Winds Casino

Watershed Restaurant

6:00 pm

The North Cascades Corvairs, (NCC) car club is chartered Chapter 982 of the Corvair Society of America, (CORS A). NCC serves the North Puget Sound region of Washington State and areas of the Lower Mainland of British Columbia. Club membership is open to anyone who shares our interest in the Corvair automobile, ownership of a Corvair is not required. Annual dues are \$20. We welcome all to join us at our regular monthly meeting. Please contact Fred Croydon at 360-466-2266 or fredngale@wavecable.com for the latest meeting date, time and location information.



So why an “EconoRun” ? For Corvairs???

by Mike Klaus, Bellingham,
'63 brown Monza convertible.

Heard about this EconoRun thing coming up May 4-5-6?

Why would an EconoRun event be so great for a Corvair club? Well, maybe a little history will help you see the weekend in LaConner is not to be missed! Be sure to sign up before March 31 when registration goes up – you could wait to sign up during April, but do it today and it will be like getting 2 ½ gallons of gas for free! How far will your Corvair go on 2 ½ gallons? You can find out at the 39th annual Northwest Corvair EconoRun!

A little history about EconoRuns... (my Corsa buddy Jeff Aronson of Maine's Corvair club gave me this info):

Before they merged with **Exxon**, **Mobil** solicited publicity by organizing the “**Mobilgas Economy Run**” from 1936 – 1967 [except during WW II]. Given America's ennui concerning fuel economy, it's hard to remember that this event once presented Mobil with a premier marketing opportunity.

Mobil itself acknowledged that real world mileage would be less than the winner's figures. **Nash/AMC** used the event to trumpet its compact cars, and in 1960 Chevrolet entered Corvairs hoping they would win their compact car class [they lost out to a Falcon]. Still, they performed well at 27.03 miles per gallon in the 2,061 mile event (Los Angeles to Minneapolis).

Perhaps hoping to deflect attention away from its second-place showing, the same car then went on to scale a snowy Pike's Peak to its 14,110 ft. summit. It was a perfect “made for TV” moment You can enjoy the details of Corvair's original **Mobil Economy Run** on YouTube. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FYa_4rOkz-4&feature=related

It is not really worth breaking in YOUR Corvair... just bring it as it is to the North Cascades' EconoRun..., but read how they did it “in the old days”:

Back in 2003, Dennis Simanaitis of Road & Track met up with some former drivers who commented on the Mobilgas Economy Run. “Cars for the Mobilgas Economy Run were chosen at random off the dealer floor. Then each was allowed 2500 miles of break-in, and this was where a lot of creative rule interpretation took place. ‘Searching for frog hairs’ was the way one engineer termed the process.”

Continued on the next page





Continued from previous page, (Why an EconoRun?)

"Break-in crews and their chase vehicles headed for desert trails. Only here, the chase vehicles were in front, generating sand to be ingested by the engine for accelerating the break-in process. Funny how air-cleaner elements got left out and, what do you know, oil-bath air cleaners were occasionally absolutely dry. "

"United States Auto Club got wise to this and outlawed desert trails; break-in cars had to stay on paved roads."

"However, your lead/chase car wasn't prohibited from running on the sand shoulder. What's more, it just might be dragging chains behind, all the better to stir up the sand. Plus, if the wind was right... And, of course, you wouldn't choose that particular road unless the wind was right."

"On the way back, teams stayed off the brakes and played toss-and-catch coming down Angeles Crest Highway, all the better to scrub off the side ribs of the tires and lower their rolling resistance." It's unlikely that contemporary econo-chasers would stoop to such trickery.

Back to speaking of gas prices, with gas prices spiking upward, the EconoRun will certainly highlight a fabulous feature of our favorite cars - you can afford to drive them.

For more information check out the **North Cascades Corvairs website:**

<http://northcascadescorvairs.org>

Register today, the deadline is getting close!

Another Restoration



Recently Fred and Gale stopped in to visit Graham, and Nancy Dell, and checked the progress on his late model convertible. Last year, he purchased it from Bev Kaufman, and has been working diligently to get it in shape. Because of its coloring, she called it Honey Bee.

He pulled the motor and stripped it down, but did not split the case. Re-assembly is almost complete, and he was checking around to find the right fasteners for the various parts.

The sheet metal was sent out to be cleaned and powder coated, and everything is looking very good. As soon as the motor is back in, he will be driving it to the body shop for a quick paint job. We should be seeing this back on the road soon.

Fred Croydon

**North
Cascades
Corvairs**



EconoRun Event Schedule

Friday, May 4 — Afternoon and Evening

Arrival, Tire-Kicking and Registration

Check in at the La Conner Country Inn at 107 S. Second St.

Go to the Hospitality Room for All your EconoRun information.

Ice Cream Social at Hammatt's Place at 16593 McLean Rd.,
Mount Vernon WA 98273 360-661-6060, 4 p.m to ?

For those who are not registered at either hotel, we have reserved parking space at the La Conner Fruit and Produce Market on First St.

Saturday, May 5 — Starting at 9 am: 39th Annual EconoRun

Saturday Arrivals: Also check in at the Country Inn Hotel for All EconoRun information and events. Your actual time to line up at the gas station will be in your packet.

Saturday Afternoon — When you finish your EconoRun

Tours and sight-seeing: on your own, or in organized groups, to see La Conner and the beautiful Skagit Valley. See the next page for specific ideas.

Saturday Evening — 5:30 Banquet

Entertainment, fun and fellowship at the La Conner Seafood & Prime Rib, at 614 S. First Street.

Sunday, May 6 — Morning and Afternoon

Show 'n Shine: from 10 am to 2 pm.

Awards and Recognitions and Goodbye.





Things to do in Skagit Valley

La Conner

- ☆ The Museum of Northwest Art on First Street.
- ☆ The La Conner Quilt Musuem on Second Street.
- ☆ The Skagit County Historical Museum on Fourth Street.
- ☆ Many shops for art, clothes and gifts. Even Grandma bait.
- ☆ Walking Tour of outdoor sculptures.
- ☆ Opening Day boat parade at 3 pm.

Skagit County

- ☆ North Sound Brewery on Memorial Hwy., #536.
- ☆ Oyster House on Chuckanut Dr.
- ☆ Whale watching, kayaking in Anacortes.
- ☆ Padilla Bay Estaurine Interpretive Ctr. for hiking, bird watching.
- ☆ Mt. Erie & Cap Sante view points.
- ☆ Deception Pass Bridge and park.
- ☆ Two display gardens for tulips.

Just Relaxing near the waterfront.

Some websites you might find helpful:

<http://www.laconnerchamber.com/>
<http://www.anacortes.org/thingstodo.cfm>
<http://www.museumofnwart.org/>

<http://www.laconnerquilts.com/>

<http://www.theoysterbar.net/>

<http://www.parks.wa.gov/parks/?selectedpark=deception%20pass>

<http://padillabay.gov/default.asp>

1932 Callilac La Salle



Some of Steve Hammatt's cars:

1914 Overland



Other Upcoming Events.



MG Car Club Tulip Rallye:

Saturday, April 21.
Cascade Mall, exit 230
Check in: 8 to 9 a.m.

It is great fun, and there is still time to register for only \$12.00. with 5 Corvairs entered, we can have our own class, with our own trophies. Please click on the link for the registration form and more info
<http://www.mgcnwc.com/>

Foothills Auto Center 5th Annual Show and Shine May 12, 2012

Classics, Antiques, Custom Cars,
Custom Trucks, and Motorcycles

Saturday, May 12th, 2012 ~
10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m

1881 Bouslog Road Burlington, WA 98233
Tel. 800-228-1207 / 360-757-7575

<http://www.foothillstoyota.com/toyota-events-showshine>



North Cascades Corvairs Treasurers Report 3/31/12

Balance forward on 2/29/12:	1794.51
Income	
Dues:	43.00
EconoRun:	1954.00
Expenses	
Secretary of State:	10.00
PayPal:	26.96
Ending Balance:	3754.55





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