



Volume 8, Issue 2

CORSA Chapter 982

February 2009

## Meeting Agenda 2/12/2009

- Last meeting's minutes
- Treasurer's report
- Membership
- Old Business
- Cruzin Magazine
- New Business
- CORSA Dues
- Autocrossing
- Upcoming Events
- Sweetheart Cruise
- Hinton Show
- Items wanted/for sale

## Vairious Thoughts

Despite creating some anxious moments for my commute home on January 8<sup>th</sup>, as far as I know the floods of January had no adverse effect on any other club member. Here's hoping our February meeting can be held without any problems, because we have plenty of items on our agenda to go over.

I am extremely pleased to announce that beginning this month, we will begin a series of articles that highlight the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Corvair. Featured this month is a timeline of milestones leading up to the Corvair's October 1959 public introduction. As the year progresses, it would be real nice to include member recollections of that time, or their ownership experiences with a 1960 Corvair. Shaun, please consider this a heads up!

In addition, this month's newsletter contains three articles that have been provided by NCC members. First on page 4, is an article by Fred Croydon on replacing the clutch in a late model. Right after that on page 6 is a technical tip sent in by Vic Kukrall on side gapping spark plugs. And on page 6 is an article by Dan Morsk on an autocrossing presentation he and several other NCC members attended at last months Corvairs Northwest meeting.

As I was putting this column together, a debate erupted on Virtual Vairs and other forums over the future of CORSA. At this time, I do not have all the information, but apparently the CORSA BOD will be voting on a dues increase sometime in February. Several messages have been posted by a CORSA officer stating that CORSA has been losing money over the last few years. Again all I know for sure is that the January 2008 *Communiqué* carried a financial statement for 2006 that showed a \$16,000 loss for the year. I have written two board members who have made the effort to communicate with the members about this, but as of this writing, I have received no reply. I hope to have more by our meeting.

*Column continued on Page 7...*

## North Cascades Corvairs Officers

### President

Bill Chellis

### Vice-President

Dan Morsk

### Secretary

Ron Zentner

### Treasurer

Beverly Kaufman

### Membership

Lauren Burton

### Web Master

Jeff Lee

## NCC Meeting Minutes from November 13, 2008

The meeting, held at the Eagle Crest Restaurant was called to order by President Bill Chellis at 7:00.

### Attendees

John Barnes, Lauren Burton, Bill & MaryAnn Chellis, Andy & Vicki Clark, Fred Croydon, Paul & Ruth Hintz, Beverly Kaufman, Greg King, Vic Kukrall, Wally McKinley, Daniel & Trent Morsk, Larri Oien, and Ron Zentner

### Old business

Club officers for 2009 were installed:

- President                      Bill Chellis
- Vice President              Dan Morsk
- Treasurer                    Beverly Kaufman
- Secretary                    Ron Zentner

and Lauren Burton was named Membership Chair for 2009.

Collection of the \$20 annual dues for 2009 is nearly complete. Lets make it 100% by next meeting. Beverly's mailing address is:

21335 Clara Place  
Sedro Woolley, WA 98284

### New Business

- Hinton Chev Corvair Gathering---Bill discussed plans-in-work for the 2009 Hinton Corvair Event. A date of May 16 looks likely because: it is well clear of the Northwest Econo-Run date of June 12-14, It avoids Mothers Day and Memorial Day weekends, and it is acceptable to Galen and the folks at the Hinton Chevrolet Dealership.
- Bill has contacted Hagerty Insurance to request their sponsorship, by donating Goody-Bags for our event. They supplied nifty ones for last years Econo-Run. His plan is for us to find sponsors who will help fill these bags with useful items for participants.

*Continued in next column...*

## NCC Meeting Minutes cont'd

### New Business (cont'd)

- Sweetheart Cruise---Bill opened discussion of the February 15 Sweetheart Cruise. He drove the Chuckanut Drive route and checked-out brunch or lunch sites for a group of 30 or-so. Possibilities include the Chuckanut Manor, Bobs Burgers and Brew, on I-5 at the Cook Road exit, and possibly the Rhododendron Cafe. A final choice will be needed before the next meeting in order to make reservations.
- New Members---Bill has invited a possible new member from Marysville to join our group.
- Bill also showed us copies a membership oriented brochure, "Ten Reasons to Own a Corvair" published by CORSA. This looks like a very good item to have on hand when showing our cars to the public, to hand out to those who seem especially interested.
- We also discussed the idea of increasing our participation in the Stanwood High School car show, put on by the Twin City Idlers car club.

### Upcoming Events

- February Meeting---February 12, 6:00 PM Eagle Crest Restaurant.
- Sweetheart Cruise---Sunday February 15 details TBD
- October 2 2009 is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Corvair automobile.

### Items for Sale

Lauren is looking for an early model spoked hubcap with two vane spinner. It will replace the one which began making noise no matter how firmly it was installed on the wheel.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:00 PM.

North Cascades Corvairs (NCC) is chartered Chapter 982 of the Corvair Society of America, (CORSA). NCC serves the North Puget Sound region of Washington 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 club dues are \$20. We welcome all to join us at our regular monthly meeting held on the second Thursday of each month at 6:00 PM at The Eagle Crest restaurant. The restaurant is located at 21102 67<sup>th</sup> Ave NE in Arlington.

Go to our website <http://northcascadescorvairs.org> , click the meeting button for directions and a map. Or you can call 360-387-0425 for more information.

NCC publishes this newsletter monthly and it is sent to all active members. NCC members may post classified ads at no cost. Please contact us for commercial ad rates.

## NCC Treasurer's Report

December 31, 2008

### Checking Account

**Balance Forward**      **\$518.89**

#### Income

Dues	\$180.00
Merchandise	\$ 16.50
BECU Interest	\$ 0.17
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$196.67</b>

#### Expenses

Christmas Gift	\$200.00
Web Master	\$ 9.95
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$209.95</b>

**Ending Balance**      **\$505.61**

### Savings Account

**Ending Balance**      **\$ 5.01**

January 31, 2009

*Beverly Kaufman, Treasurer*

## The North Cascades Corvairs line of quality merchandise

We have t-shirts (\$20), mugs (\$12), and hats (\$16.50) available for immediate or one day delivery. Coasters, mouse pads, totes, pillow covers and ceramic tiles can be special ordered. Shipping can be arranged at a slight additional cost.

You can order by contacting  
Fred Croydon at:  
[fredngale@wavecable.com](mailto:fredngale@wavecable.com)

An [order form](#) is available at  
our club web site.



## North Cascades Corvairs Business Cards

The example here shows the front of my card, and if you would like to have some of your own, call or write me, and let me know what you would like on yours. The card stock I use, printable on both sides, allows a picture of your car on the back. I can produce them for about ten cents each. So, for a dollar you can have a sheet of ten cards. Just get me a picture of your car in the pose of your choice.



**Fred Croydon**

439 Modoc Way  
La Conner, WA 98257  
Ph: (360) 466-2266

e-mail: [fredngale@wavecable.com](mailto:fredngale@wavecable.com)

## CORVAIR SOCIETY OF AMERICA

The Corvair Society of America, (CORSA) is an international organization that is made up of over 4,800 members and 125 chapters, one of which is North Cascades Corvairs. CORSA members are dedicated to the preservation, restoration and to furthering the appreciation of the Corvair automobile. CORSA supports all sanctioned Corvair Clubs with several benefits, including event insurance, members only classified ads and the monthly magazine, *Corsa Communique*. North Cascades Corvairs strongly encourages all members to join CORSA. YOUR membership in CORSA helps them provide those services. Annual dues are only \$38.00. For more information, including a membership form, contact CORSA at the following website: [www.corvair.org](http://www.corvair.org) CORSA email is: [corvair@corvair.org](mailto:corvair@corvair.org).

## NCC Tech Topic

### Late Model Clutch Removal and Replacement

*Text and photos by Fred Croydon*

My 1965 Monza Coupe started as a 140HP with a 4 speed in California. The previous owner decided he wanted a Corsa Clone, so he changed the dash and emblems to reflect that. Somewhere along the line he decided the secondary carbs were too much trouble, and he removed them, and blanked the manifolds with aluminum plates.

I was having problems tuning the primary carbs and finally had Andy Clark give me a mini lesson on making that work. Despite Andy's best efforts, those carbs still did not function properly. So I finally found a set of four used carbs, pulled them apart, and reset them to specs. I bent new fuel lines and installed all four carbs and the tuning was done in about five minutes. It really is easy when the carbs are in good shape. See Figure 1.



*Figure 1- Rebuilt four carbs installed with new fuel lines. Note they lead in from front, as they lead from an electric fuel pump.*



*Figure 2 - Ron's stand to support the back of the car is high enough to drop the drive train out and clear everything. It is placed just in front of the drive train, and across the normal jacking pads.*

The engine responded so well on the test drive that I noticed the clutch was slipping when cruising about 35 mph in fourth, and accelerating. I thought it was slipping before this, but now I was sure.

That started the next project, ordering parts and planning the replacement of the flywheel, pressure plate, and clutch. Ron Zentner was very helpful on this project with information as well as several devices that made the work go quickly and safely. See Figure 2 and 3. He also helped in the disassembly.

Taking everything apart to get ready to lower the drive train went quickly with the help of Ron and my brother Gordy. See Figure 4. As soon as the clutch and the faces of the flywheel and pressure plate were exposed I knew that we did the right thing to order all three in advance. See Figure 5 and 6. I spend the next couple of days cleaning everything, and getting ready for the assembly. My brother showed up to help with that last phase and everything went back together without problems in about 4 hours.

*Article continued on Page 5...*





*Figure 3 - Ron's heavy turnbuckles to replace the shock absorbers and adjust the wheel height to relieve stress while removing and replacing bolts for the strut rod.*



*Figure 4 - Complete drive train lowered from car on transmission jack.*

I have to say, the turnbuckles holding the wheels in place made the job of replacing the suspension and rear axles very easy. The clutch adjustment was way out, probably from being adjusted to compensate for the worn clutch.

The shop manuals do provide the correct procedures, and everything went well when we followed the instructions. So, with shop manuals, advice and help from friends in North Cascades Corvairs, and a willing brother, the job was completed successfully.



*Figure 5 - Old flywheel showing worn and hot spots on the face.*



*Figure 6 - Old clutch disc and pressure plate showing the worn hot spots on the face.*



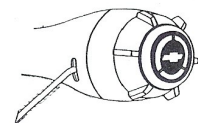
**jtekUSA, Inc.**

**Providing web development & computing security solutions for your home, club, and/or business.**

[jtekusa@wavecable.com](mailto:jtekusa@wavecable.com)

**Corvair  
Telescopic  
Column  
Restorations**

Restoration on all N-36 '65/'69  
Complete Units & Parts  
Always Buying Full or Partial  
727/492-3310 Cell



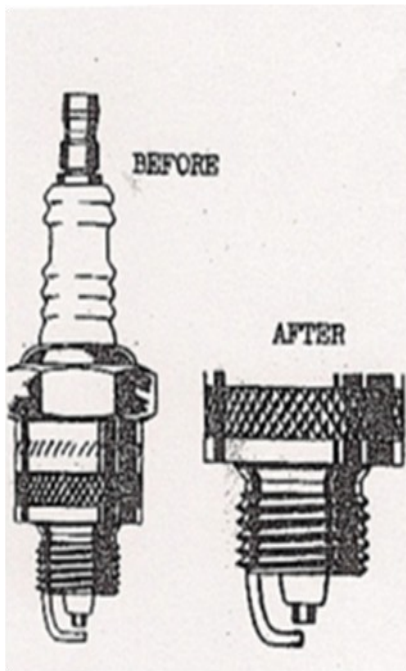
Bill

## NCC Tech Tip

One in an occasional series of member provided suggestions to help increase the performance, reliability or enjoyment of our Corvairs. Thanks to Vic Kukrall for this month's tip.

**Editors note:** *Anecdotal evidence exists that this modification does increase performance. Be aware however that it is also reported to shorten plug life.*

### SIDE-GAP PLUGS



One of the advantages to side-gap spark plugs is that they run cleaner at low rpm. Many manufacturers offer these plugs (in limited heat ranges). If you desire such a plug for your race or street machine, it's a cinch to modify standard plugs to the side-gap configuration. Starting with a conventional lug of the heat range you normally use, carefully bend the ground electrode back away from the center electrode. Carefully grind or file the tip of the ground electrode a sufficient amount so that it will end up in the center of the center electrode, as shown. Be careful not to damage the center electrode or the porcelain while doing your filing or grinding.

#### Plug Electrode Modification

Opening the plug gap to 1½ times normal gap doubles the power (spark Energy) to the plug.

#### Optional

Cut the overhead electrode back far enough so that it no longer covers the center electrode. File off burrs, open gap to 1½ times normal, measured between the two closest surfaces.

## NCC Members Attend Autocrossing Presentation

### *Dan Morsk*

Several North Cascades members attended the Corvairs Northwest (CNW) Club meeting on Wednesday, January 21, 2009. CNW had their general meeting along with a presentation by club member Jonathan Knapp, on his autocrossing experiences. He made a photo presentation, along with a historical perspective of his car. Jonathan first autocrossed his car at the Portland convention in 2005. He has made numerous upgrades/modifications to his LM. During the 2008 season, he was able to run 6 of the 8 SCCA Northwest region events in the stock modified class. Competing against several different types of automobiles, Jonathan won the SCCA northwest region stock modified class championship. He plans to continue his quest during the 2009 season. He did a nice job of presenting his car and autocross dreams.

For more information on Northwest autocrossing and a schedule of events click on the following link:

<http://www.nwr-scca.org/Solo/>

## Vairious Thoughts (continued)

After some uncertainty, the 2009 Hinton Chevrolet Corvair Gathering date is now set for June 6<sup>th</sup>. In addition, I have the plans for the dash plaques. It appears that we can purchase the materials (less printer ink) required to produce them for less than \$50.

The Sweetheart Cruise itinerary is set. By now, you all should have received a copy. If not, I will bring several with me to the meeting. Briefly, we will depart from the Northbound Bow Hill Rest Area at 1:30 PM. And we will gather at the Burlington Bob's Burgers and Brew after the cruise ends.

Lastly, our club listing in *Cruzin Magazine* has finally been added! I will have the latest magazine with me at our meeting. Or you can go online to: [www.cruzinmag.com](http://www.cruzinmag.com) to see it. In addition, The Hinton Chevrolet Corvair Gathering is listed in the 2009 Calendar of Events.

Hope you can make it out to the Eagle Crest restaurant on February 12<sup>th</sup>. And if you haven't already, please renew your membership in NCC!

Bill





BY VINYL SIGNS & BANNERS

**360-653-0960**

1208 6th St. Marysville  
[vsbsigns.com](http://vsbsigns.com)

**All kinds of custom  
signage, banners,  
and vehicle wraps.**

This will be **THE Catalog**  
until 2013

Includes → All our **NEW** parts, **KITS**,  
many improvements and updates.

**Over 6** solid months  
in the making!  
updates on 80% of pgs!

**Over**  
670 pages  
1900 photos  
1100 sketches

**Over**  
500 exploded diagrams  
15,000 parts listed  
11,000 index entries

**M - O - R - E**  
*Clark Multi Kit choices*

**You need THIS Catalog!**

► **HOW TO GET ONE?**

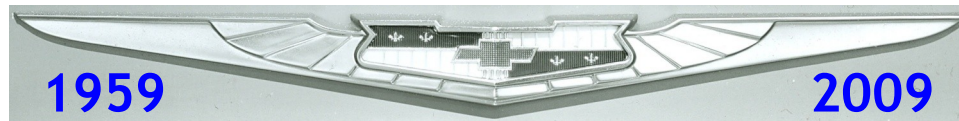
**Rush Order - JUST THE CATALOG** order over  
the internet or by any of our regular methods  
\$6.00 USA, \$8.00 Canada Foreign contact us

**WITH a PARTS ORDER -**  
order CAT-O \$4.00 3 Lbs.

**Clark's Corvair Parts,® Inc.**  
400 Mohawk Trail, Shelburne Falls, Ma. 01370  
413-625-9776 [www.corvair.com](http://www.corvair.com)



## Corvair Golden Anniversary Dates



### January

23 - First Corvair Production Prototype

### February

First Corvair advertising is created

### April

Production begins on Corvair aluminum engine components at the Chevrolet Massena, NY foundry

### May

22 – GM officially announces it will build a small car called the Corvair

### June

Corvair engine production begins in Tonawanda, NY

### July

1 – First Corvair Press Conference held at the Detroit Athletic Club

7 – First Production Corvair is built at Willow Run

15 – The first long-lead auto writer drives a Corvair at the GM Proving Grounds

### September

10 – The Chevrolet National Sales Convention and Press Review are held

### October

2 – The Corvair goes on sale

NCC thanks Dave Newell and the Corvair Preservation Foundation for providing this information and it is reprinted here with their permission.





## Upcoming Events

### **FEBRUARY 2009**

**12 NCC Club Meeting** Eagle Crest Restaurant  
Meeting starts at 6:00 PM

14 Valentines Day

15 NCC Sweetheart Cruise

### **MARCH 2009**

**12 NCC Club Meeting** Eagle Crest Restaurant  
Meeting starts at 6:00 PM

### **APRIL 2009**

**9 NCC Club Meeting** Eagle Crest Restaurant  
Meeting starts at 6:00 PM

25 [LaConner Tulip Rallye](#)

### **MAY 2009**

**14 NCC Club Meeting** Eagle Crest Restaurant  
Meeting starts at 6:00 PM

### **June 2009**

6 Hinton Chevrolet Corvair Gathering

**11 NCC Club Meeting** Eagle Crest Restaurant  
Meeting starts at 6:00 PM

12-14 NW Econorun Inland Northwest Corvair Club  
Coeur D' Alene, ID

### **JULY 2009**

13-17 CORSA International Convention  
Jacksonville, FL