



MAY

2012



**VEGAS VAIRS, CHAPTER 891 OF CORSA, MEETS AT 7:00 P.M.**

**THE 2ND WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT:**

**DENNY'S RESTAURANT**

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**AND \$13 FOR NON-CORSA MEMBERS**

**DUE BY FEBRUARY 1ST OF EACH YEAR.THEY MAY BE PAID AT THE MONTHLY MEETING OR MAILED TO:**

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**MEL JACKSON, VICE PRESIDENT**

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## *Vegas Vairs Monthly Meeting* CORSA Chapter 891 - April 11, 2012

1. Prez Paul Bernardo called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.
  2. We had one guest present - Barbara Johnson from Wisconsin.
  3. Ingrid relayed the status of our treasury: after all bills were paid the club still maintains a \$788.02 balance.
  4. Those in attendance in alphabetical order were as follows:  
Paul Bernardo, Vicki Bernardo, John Charaska, Jerry Dunning, John Michael D'Angerio, Esq., Lea Green, Paul Green, Chuck Hanson, Bob Helt, Ingrid Howard, Vic Howard, Mel Jackson, Barbara Johnson (Suzan Sibert's sister), Kelly Magowan, Ernie McKinney, Jack O'Shea, Harry Ransom, Arlon Sibert, Suzan Sibert, Howard Stone, and Steve Wentworth.
  5. The Greens were given a big round of applause for their efforts to bring about the Rachanski museum tour and pot luck.
  6. Ingrid & Vic discussed the upcoming spring picnic at their home on April 21st. in Arizona. We hope everyone brought their own chairs!
  7. Next the group discussed if we should have a gathering (with *Corvairs*) at the *Bonanza Lounge* some Saturday morning? A positive vote picked May 19th. at 10:00 am to initiate this new function.
  8. Various upcoming car shows were discussed.
  9. Club newsletter editor Vic relayed he is still happy to be getting sufficient material for the monthly publication.
  10. Prez. Paul explained a new procedure from *CORSA*. If you elect to get the *Communique* by e-mail your yearly dues drop from \$45.00 to \$37.00.
  11. Paul Green next explained some problems he had with the changing of ball joints in late model *'Vairs*. He advised using the old bolts rather the new ones with the rebuilding kit.
  12. Prez. Paul put me into shock when he stated he had a new-in-the-box '66-'67 outside mirror he would sell. I've only been looking for one UNDER \$55.00 for over two years! He then relayed that he's had it FOREVER!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
  13. Next, Chuck Hanson showed us his large trophy he won at the Hurricane, Utah *Easter Car Show* for his incredible, fuel injected *Ultra Van*. Way to go Chuck!
  14. I might add that I too was fortunate enough to win a plaque with my *Cora* at the *Eastside Cannery Show* on April 7th.
  15. Jerry Dunning let us know that he'll have to be away for six months and won't return until October. Safe traveling young man.
  16. Paul & Vicki, Vic & Ingrid, Paul & Lea, and myself pledged to bring raffle items to the next meeting.
  17. Howard Stoner conducted the raffle and yours truly fortunately won the 50/50. Hey, now maybe I can buy a passenger side mirror?
  18. The meeting was adjourned at 7:39 pm. As usual, the group ambled out to the parking lot to talk more *'Vairs*. Vic showed us his new acquisition - a '65 black coupe that *may* wind up in his grandson's stewardship. We were happy to see Pres Paul's blue 'vert on the road again. And John D.'s *Hank Williams Rocket Special* was crankin' out the tunes as ever.
- - - - Minutes submitted by G. H. Ransom - Club Secretary



**Saturday, March 31, 2001**

## **Vegas Vairs is perfect club for Corvair lovers**

By GINGER MIKKELSEN  
VIEW STAFF WRITER

Sallie Wentworth loves her Corvairs the way most people love their pets or children. Each car and truck has a name, a personality and soul of its own.

Leading the Wentworth caravan is Vixen, a '63 convertible named for the famous reindeer. Next up is a '65 Monza named Hank Jr., a '63 Monza 4-speed dubbed Danny, a '61 4-door called Clare and a '63 500 model named Jack. Wentworth said it was love at first sight when she saw her first Corvair.

"My husband said what do you want a Corvair for, they're junk," she said.

Wentworth doesn't agree. She thinks the cars are cute and the air-cooled rear engines are simple for the layman to keep tuned up.

Her love of Corvairs and the people who drive them make the Sunrise resident the ideal person to lead the local Corvair club, the Vegas Vairs.

Russ Thuleen started the Vegas Vairs in 1995. The Southeast Las Vegas resident had just come home from a national Corvair convention and he knew he wanted to belong to a local group.

"I dug up about 70 or 80 names and tried to get them all together," Thuleen said.

Even though the car club is named for Las Vegas, club members are as far flung as Henderson, Overton and Boulder City. Some club members even come in from Arizona and California.

The club cruised along smoothly with over 70 registered members until Thuleen had a heart attack. That's when he realized he needed help to keep the club going. The club had been inactive for a while when Thuleen found Wentworth.

"We met in traffic," Wentworth said. "I'm terrible. I'll stop for anyone in a Corvair."

"I saw her Corvair and she pulled into a shopping center so I followed her," Thuleen said. "With cars it's kind of different. Right way you have something in common."

Wentworth jumped into action in February by starting the club newsletter back up and holding a home-spun car show in her back yard to bring back the old members and recruit the new.

"Luckily Sallie has picked up the ball to get things rolling again," said Vegas Vairs member Kevin Britt. "She's been a good spark plug."

The Southwest Las Vegas resident looks forward to getting involved in the club again.

"I have made a lot of good friends through the club. It's a good, friendly group of people to get involved with," Britt said.

Wentworth said the local club is full of long-time Corvair devotees. One of the most dedicated Corvair fans is Bob Helt. The Lakes resident has published more than 20 articles on Corvairs

formational publications. He is also awaiting the printing of his comprehensive book on Corvairs. He's hoping the book is out in time for the next national Corvair convention.

Helt got his Corvair experience the hard way. When his five grown children were in high school they all drove Corvairs. Plus one son decided he needed another Corvair to race with. That gave Helt a driveway filled with six daily-driven Corvairs. Combined with the hands on work, Helt spent years studying the car's design and history to assemble a book he said includes "everything I know and then some."

Helt is also editing a book for the national Corvair association's Corsa group. The book was written by members of an online Corvair community called the Virtual Vairs.

Helt too is glad Wentworth has jump-started the club.

"We needed someone like Sallie to grab the ball."

Wentworth feels the club is going to grow.

"I have the enthusiasm of a four-year-old and love Corvairs so I see a bright future for our group," she said.

Club members plan to meet at least once a month through the cooler months. Since most of the cars have air-cooled engines and no air-conditioning, the hottest months of summer are out.

Although Wentworth had the first meeting at her house with more than 18 cars and 42 people, future meetings will be held at Car City, 2117 North Nellis Blvd.

"We own Car City and it just has better lighting than the back yard," Wentworth said.

Dues are \$20 a year which secures membership and the monthly newsletter. For more

information call Wentworth at 452-5670. For more information about Corvairs, Virtual Vairs

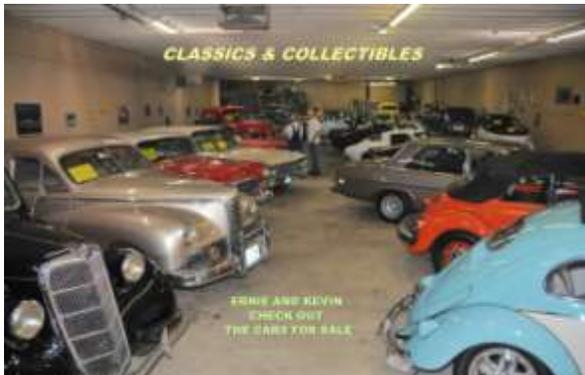
Website can be found at [www.vv.corvair.org](http://www.vv.corvair.org).

<http://www.viewnews.com/2001/VIEW-Mar-31-Sat-2001/Henderson/15689626.html>

## **THESE WERE TAKEN AT RUSS & DONNA THULEENS HOME PHOTOS BY SALLIE AND STEVE WENTWORTH**

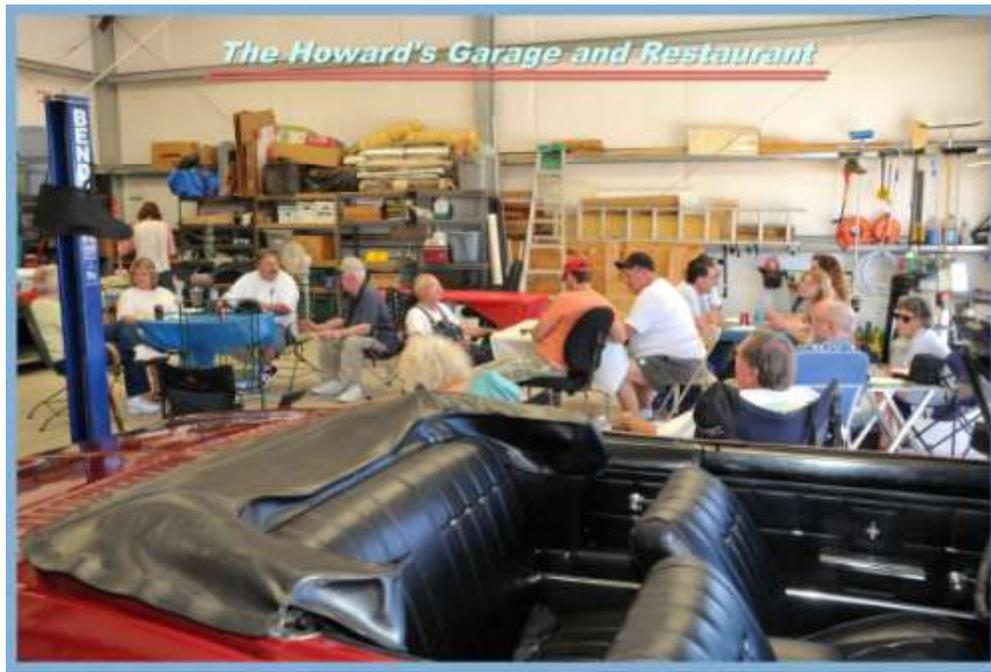


# A COLLECTION OF EVENTS OUR MEMBERS PARTICIPATED IN DURING APRIL





**THE SPRING PICNIC AT VIC AND INGRIDS HOME APRIL 21ST**





**Comments on the picnic by our esteemed Club Secretary:**

I drove to our *Corvair* club spring picnic in Fort Mohave, Arizona yesterday. I logged 270 miles round trip. Uggggggggg. Never again. Give me A/C!! We had a convoy of nine cars that left from the *Railroad Pass Casino*. Sallie's '62 ate an electric fuel pump just south of Searchlight. There are no auto parts stores in Harry Reid's birthplace.. Three went on ahead to tell our hosts about the delay. However, Paul (one of the three) called back saying he remembered he had a spare in his trunk. Thirty miles down the road he made a u-turn. I had some spare electrical spade terminals so Sallie's convertible was fixed better than ever Then John's '65 started throwing transmission fluid. It was determined he had a plugged torque converter vent. Okay, add some fluid,wipe down the fan cover, and we're off once again.

Just before we crossed the Colorado River John's trans needed more fluid. He had run out (no parts stores again) but I had some onboard. We joined the rest of the tribe in AZ only 1 3/4 hours later than planned.

Now what? After a concentrated think tank session it was decided to dig into John's Powerglide. Our host has a separate four car garage with a lift - oh what a man cave! The two ace mechanics in the club dug out the failed part that controls pressure release in the vent tube. It was cleaned,re-machined, and reinstalled, Voila, a purring 'Vair once again. Hey, you gotta' keep 'em flying - John's coupe has only 210,000 miles - - - so far!

It was 108F. there. Driving south in the morning the sun was on me. Driving home the sun was on me. And, Cora struggled a few times and made some nasty noises which still have me worried.

I don't know if you found the previous treatise boring or interesting but that was how I spent my Saturday.

For some chuckles see the attached photos.



FOR MORE PHOTOS GO TO WEBSHOTS AT:

<http://rides.webshots.com/album/582727888YMIQBA>

*~Split Personality~*

*Or,.*

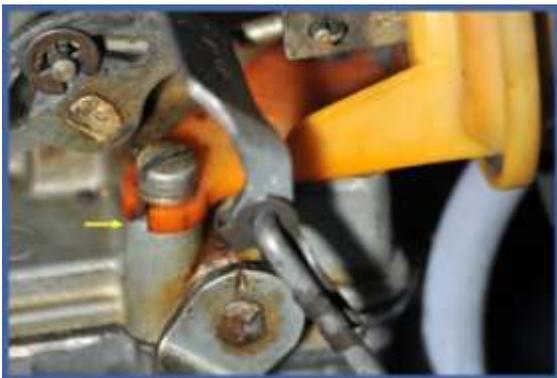
**How to keep tabs on your carburetors**

You've probably heard the expression - "You don't get a second chance to make a first impression." Well, what's the first thing that grabs your attention when you first look into the engine compartment of a non turbo *Corvair*? Probably, it's those amber stained vacuum choke pull-offs on each carburetor, eh? Yuk. They're supposed to be off-white or oyster colored. Instead, they usually appear to be smeared with *Cheetos* residue!

Actually, there's a twofold problem here. Yes, cosmetically they display years of gasoline stains. But if they are all plastic and not the style with a stamped metal base then the corner mounting tabs are often split apart. This failure can lead to the loss of the proper upper body half carburetor casting sealing and hold-down torque. See the accompanying photo.

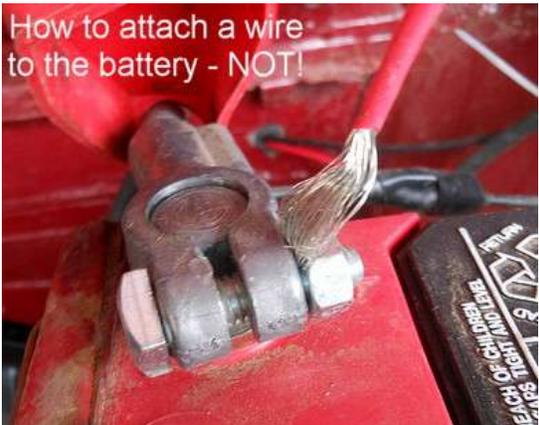
It appears that the metal base pull-offs are no longer available; just the all plastic varieties. An alternate solution to strengthening and extending the longevity of an installation of the plastic base models is to epoxy a #8 steel washer to the top sides of each mounting tab. This fabrication should help prevent the base corners from splitting (over time) around the bolt holes. Just drill out any excess epoxy before mounting.

I used good 'ole *J-B Weld* which may sound like a "red neck" style fix but the stuff really works. I'm sure that this is not an original idea but one I would like to make sure is shared with other *CORSA* members. - - Happy cruising, G.  
Harry Ransom - *Vegas Vairs* - Chapter #891



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