

4/15/2008

**Head of the Lakes Corvair Association Newsletter**



***HLCA Takes 3rd Place for Outstanding Car Club Display award at World of Wheels Car Show!!!***



\*\*\* Story and more pictures on page 5 & 6 \*\*\*



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Birthdays

- April 22 Patty Prudden
- May 23rd Vic Blazevic
- May 24th Bob Johnson
- May 25 Joyce Veillieux

*Don't forget to check out our merchandise at our Club Store!!*

**Welcome New Member!!**  
**Jeff & Susan Gecas**  
**1644 Cty Rd 14**  
**Grand Maris, Minn 55604**  
**62 Monza 900 Cpe**  
**61 Greenbrier**  
**62 Greenbrier**

**Jan and Feb Treasurers Report**  
**This is the proposed Treasurers Report for April**

<b>Income</b>		<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>\$826.52</b>
50/50	5.00	Postage Newsletter	49.20	<b>25.00</b>
Dues	20.00			<b>(49.20)</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>(49.20)</b>	
		<b>Total</b>		
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<hr/>			<b>\$ 802.32</b>

*Jim Linder Treas.*

**Activities and Events**

**April 22nd** Regular Monthly Meeting held at the Pruddens at 7 pm to View The Detroit Convention Video Dinner at 6 pm. Notes in newsletter.

**May 6th** Committee meeting 7pm at The Pruddens

**May 27** Regular meeting at Perkins London Rd dinner at 6 meeting at 7PM

# *Meeting Agenda*

*Attendance—New Members or guests*

*Secretary's report—Kathy Thompson*

*Treasurer's Report—Jim Linder*

*Committee Reports—Car Shows - New list to come - Cloquet 1st weekend in Aug  
Corvair Cavalry - Ron Thompson*

*Pete's Parts—Pete Prudden*

*Newsletter—Ron Thompson*

*Merchandise Order—Patty Prudden - Patty - Mugs are NICE!!*

*Old Business - World of Wheels set up the 27th Cost for Club?*

*Cirrus Design Tour*

*New Business - Officer Handbook \_ membership form*

*World of wheels car show March 28-30 Set up Thurs March 27*

*Archer Bros Tour*

*Detroit Apr 22nd Meeting at Pruddens DVD BYOM & side dish  
to share*

*Picture's By Arial Bridge*

*Summer Picnic—Iron World?*

*All GM show*

*Tech Talk*

*Any other new business*

*Adjournment*

## **Vendor List**

Corvair Underground  
503-434-1648  
[www.corvairunderground.com](http://www.corvairunderground.com)

The Source Inc.  
[source@andc.com](mailto:source@andc.com)  
858-259-3843  
<http://www.thesourceparts.com>

Larry's Corvair Parts  
[K6RO@Earthlink.net](mailto:K6RO@Earthlink.net)  
310-070-9851  
[www.larryscorvair.com](http://www.larryscorvair.com)

California Corvairs  
[CACorvairs@aol.com](mailto:CACorvairs@aol.com)  
323 223-2775  
<http://www.californiacorvairparts.com>

Dale Manufacturing  
3425 Fairhaven Ave N.E.  
Salem, Oregon 97303  
503-364-8685  
[WWW.DaleMfg.com](http://WWW.DaleMfg.com)

Clarks Corvair Parts  
400 Mohawk Trail  
Shelburne Falls, Mass 01370  
423-625-9776  
[WWW.corvair.com](http://WWW.corvair.com)

# Adjusting Valve Lifters

Most every Vair mechanic has set valves with the engine running: just loosen the rockers up until they click, tighten them down until they are quiet, and then make the final set. What could be simpler? Many other jobs could be!

One of the first things that a novice does wrong is not running the engine long enough to pump up the lifters. Thirty minutes to an hour is not uncommon if you are dealing with a stored or newly rebuilt engine. Sometimes a lifter will stay stuck, no matter how long you run it. Also, lifters cannot be set on valves that are sticking open. This makes itself know by backfires in either the intake or exhaust, depending on the valve involved. This can usually be cured by brisk driving and some upper cylinder lubricant either in the gas tank or dripped into the offending side through the carburetor while the engine is running. When running an engine with a sticking valve, remember that the setting of the valve in question must be loose enough to allow the valve to be fully seated when the high pressure inside the cylinder of a revved up engine attempts to blow the valve shut. After it has been blown shut a few thousand times, it usually will loosen up and operate properly at idle rpm. You can then return to a normal valve lifter setting operation. Keep in mind that it is possible to have valves sticking open on some cylinders and lifters sticking flat on others, all at the same time. An engine that has been stored would be an especially good candidate for this. It can drive a mechanic right up the wall because the engine will barely run, backfiring out both the carbs and the tailpipe, and all the lifters clanking. Trying to set the valves is impossible because if you slow down the engine enough to work on them, it will die. On one job I encountered all of the above plus two crossed ignition wires for good measure.

Now let's get back to normal valve setting procedure. You have loosened the adjustment until it rattles, turned it down until it just quits, and then slowly turned it down to whatever setting you are using. The engine will start to miss. This is normal, as it takes a short time for the lifter to bleed down to its new setting. If it does not bleed down and start running properly in a reasonable period of time, the lifter is probably stuck in a collapsed position. However, once in a while a valve may be only slightly sticky and it will operate okay down to the point of zero lash, but when the final setting is done the valve will again stick open. This point must be kept in mind before definitely faulting the lifter. If you feel that this might be the case, set the lifter at zero lash, drive the car until you feel that the valve is no longer sticking, and then reset the lifter.

Mechanics who are not Vair-wise will make several tries at setting a lifter that is stuck flat, and finally give up and set the lifter to where it is just quiet and leave it there. The hydraulic lifter is now operating like a solid lifter with no automatic adjustment, and of course the geometry of the valve train is improper. Also, the lifter may eventually become unstuck and pump up during high speed operation, causing the engine to misfire. I have found engines which have been run this way for a long time, and there is no way to reset the lifter because it is securely stuck in the collapsed position. If you are sure that the lifter is really stuck, loosen the adjustment until the lifter is clattering again, but not so loose that the pushrod may jump out of its socket. Put the rocker cover on temporarily and drive the vehicle briskly. This not only heats up the engine and the oil, but it also provides higher oil pressure. The combination may pump up the lifter and the valve clatter will stop. Then you should be able to reset the valve lifter in a normal manner. If after many miles of brisk driving the lifter will not pump up, the next possible remedy is an additive placed in the oil. You can find many different brands that promise to free sticky lifters. If after many more miles it is still clicking, your only recourse is to remove the lifter and either clean it or install a new one. I prefer to clean it and reuse it if it seems okay, especially if the engine has a lot of miles on it, because the wear pattern on the bottom of the lifter matches the cam lobe. A new lifter starts an entirely different wear pattern, sometimes with bad results.

One other thing to consider is oil pressure. If it is lower than normal, marginal lifters will begin to give trouble, especially at low engine speeds. Since the Corvair has no oil pressure gauge, you may remove the oil pressure warning switch and install a temporary gauge there. Pressures vary widely; if you see 25 to 45 p.s.i. with the oil hot and the engine speeded up, the lifters should be working properly. Even if the pressure is at the lower valve, it still may be a solidly stuck lifter that is the problem.



The Head of the Lakes Corvair Club hit the road Thursday March 27th and headed to the World of Wheels Car Show at the Arena Auditorium. We had a total of 9 cars in the display and My 1964 Huffy Corvair Bicycle. Members attending were, Pete and Patty Prudden, Paul Wotruba, Ed Lampi, Art Bringe, Dan Rutka, Bob Saunders, Jim Linder and Ron Thompson. Dick Eilers and Pat Murphy also stopped by to lend a hand. The set up for the show went smooth. We had a table full of old Magazines with the Corvair advertisements, Model cars, and a TV compliments Of DADS Electronics playing videos of a Corvair slide show and the fire and ice video from Iowa. We had a Fantastic display of cars and almost all years and models covered. We had a lot of people come by and tell us what a beautiful display we had. It was a great week end. All the typical Nader stories were told and we explained to the people what the REAL story of the Corvair was. The interest in the Corvair is rising and this show was proof of it. I was a **GREAT** week end for our club and our presence is being felt.

**WE HAVE ARRIVED!!** Congrats and **GOOD JOB** to all!! **WELL DONE !!!**



Early Models all in a row



A Stable of Late Models







Jim Linder Handing out candy to the "KIDS"



What's a car show without a 1964 Huffy Corvair?



Here's Ed, our elder member trying to get a young Lady interested in Corvairs. At least that's what he told us.

Here is a couple leads on parts and a van for sale that we received from the World of Wheels car show. The did not want their phone number published in the newsletter so if your interest in anything, let me know and I'll call them and set something up.

For Sale:

1963 Corvair Van 95

Rebuilt Engine New tires, brakes, cables, and exhaust

For Sale:

Corvair supplement manuals \$10.00 ea.

St Cloud, Minn



Pat Murphy stopped by to help out.





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## Corvair Classifieds

### PARTS WANTED:

All for late model. Rear antenna, tunnel pans (under car) both pieces, rear seat bottom for convertible and coupe, prefer black but will accept any color, engine wire harness, rear speaker fader switch.

Vern Sundbom, 218-847-6631

[vmsundbom@lakesnet.net](mailto:vmsundbom@lakesnet.net)

1/8

**For Sale:** 1959 Ford T-Bird 390 C.I. 4-Barrel Auto Trans, PWR Windows, PWR Seat, Electric Wipers, New Interior, Many new parts, California car

\$15,000.00

Contact: Glen 715-462-3978



### For Sale:

1965 500 CPE

Vic Blazevic 's Corvair is for sale.

\$5,000 or Best offer

His Brother in law and sister are the contacts.

218-628-1520

11/09

### For Sale:

1966 Nission Patrol 4X4

Frame and Body Rough

Running gear good.

\$600 Best Offer Or Trade for?



### For Sale:

1966 Monza 140 4 speed

Ran when parked. Stored in heated garage.

Ray Mlaskoch

Willow River, Mn

218-372-3693 218-380-9922

\$3,500.00

11/07

### FREE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Need a 2 burner Coleman camp stove? I have one with the stand And will give it away if you need it. Another treasure our of my garage. And yes it works

Ron Thompson 218-590-0765

corvaid50@AOL.com 3/18



**Art Bringe 721-3050**

1/12

**List your parts or car for sale here.**

**Free to members and \$7.50 to non Members. Just send all the information and I will get your ad in here. Send all ads to:**

**Ron Thompson  
3932 E 8th ST  
Superior, Wisc**



Head of the Lakes Corvair Association  
Meeting March 25<sup>th</sup> 2008

Meeting was called to order at 7:15PM. There were 8 members in attendance. The 50/50 raffle was \$5 to club and \$5 to winner.

The Secretary report was given by Kathy Thompson and a motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as read.

The Treasurers report was read by Jim Linder and a motion was made and seconded to accept the report. There was discussion on what the report should reflect and the information that appears in the newsletter will reflect changes made to that effect.

There will be a new car show list coming out soon (it might even be in the April Newsletter) and there is a show in Cloquet in August.

The Calvary reports that there is still work to be done on Pats car and on Arts car also. The Dick Dee project should be wrapping up soon with warmer weather on the way. Dick Eilers is going to need some help getting his car back up and running. Pat Murphy mentions that he has an engine that he would donate for extra parts or whatever.

Petes parts corner, if you need help putting together an order give Pete a call or email.

Patty will put together an order for items on the website, if you want to save on some shipping charges

Have her put an order together for you.

We will have 8-9 cars in the World of Wheels. Fees were discussed and it was decided that a portion of the entry fees would come out of our club treasury.

A recap of our Cirrus tour stating again how interesting and fun it was.

Molly is putting together the new Officer handbook and membership form. We discussed possibly scheduling a visit to the Archer Brothers to coincide with the Wednesday no name car club.

Still waiting on the Detroit video at this time. It was planned to have a potluck supper at the Pruddens , taking the place of the Perkins meeting place. Bring your favorites to eat, drink and be merry.

More talk about future month plans, IronWorld, the GM show and picture options.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:34pm motion and 2nd

## May Car shows

May 11 Sesquicentennial Car Show Northeastern Bar Cloquet 10-3\

May 14 Copper Top Church Free Air Show 4-5

May 15 Gordy's Cloquet Blessing of the cars

May 22 Cloquet WalMart

May 26 Memorial Day Parade West Duluth





\*\*\*For Sale\*\*\*

1963 Corvair Spyder "Project" This is a very solid car from Georgia. Most of the big work has been done. It has new floor, painted but needs a redo for final. No other body work needed. New brakes and emergency brake, drive train all done by Pete Prudden. Engine completely redone. Turbo all gone thru, all numbers correct. New clutch. It needs windshield, top interior and tires. Has all chrome, glass and extra interior etc. New battery. I have over \$8,600.00 invested. I am selling due to the lack of time and the needed space. Call for details and I am willing to deal. This is a very desirable project.

Roger Lesneski  
P.O. Box 391  
Ashland, Wis 54806  
Cell 715-292-4373  
Home 715-682-5403  
rodix@centurytel.net

## Hello from the Sunshine Committee

I have taken on the responsibility to recognize every paid member in our club with a Birthday greeting. I thought it might be fun and nice to have your special day not go unnoticed. I would like to request that all paid memberships please send me your special day so I won't miss sending you a card. Please e-mail me at [Karingkat@Aol.com](mailto:Karingkat@Aol.com) and please put in the subject line (Club Birthday) so I will actually open your mail.

*Kathy Thompson Secretary*

## Cavalry Update

Things are winding down finally. I fired up Art Bringes engine today and only a few things left then in she goes. I have a couple small things left on Pat Murphys to finish up. After that I'll try to get Bob Saunders 66 running. Then clean my garage. I have stuff all over. I have some things to do this summer on my 62 but I'll fit that in some where.

Thanks to all who have helped me with Parts and labor on all the jobs we have done so far.

Ron Thompson

**2006-07**

## **Bard of Directors**

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