



# THE REAR VIEW

Serving Northeastern Oklahoma Corvair Enthusiasts

Vol. 30, No 3

MARCH, 2007

MARCH, 2007		
2	Friday, 6:00 P.M.	Regular dinner meeting at Full Cup Restaurant, 4634 East 31 <sup>st</sup> Street
15-18	Thurs.-Sun.	Tulsa Auto Show: IPE Building, Tulsa Fairgrounds.
APRIL, 2007		
6	Friday, 6:00 P.M.	Regular dinner meeting at Full Cup Restaurant, 4634 East 31 <sup>st</sup> Street. (Election of Officers)
MAY, 2007		
5	Friday 6:00 p.m.	Regular meeting at Full Cup Restaurant, 4634 East 31 <sup>st</sup> Street. (Election of Officers)
6	Saturday 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.	Greater Tulsa Orphan Auto Show: TBA

## MINUTES: FEBRUARY 2, 2007, (by Marilyn Ash Secretary)

Present: President Roger Scott, Vice-President Marvin Luke, Secretary-Treasurer Marilyn Ash, J.C. Ash, Jim Brewer, John & Mary Zink, Gary, Mary & Jennifer Baxter, Bob & Pat Kinser, Mike & Marla Sweaney, Tim & Becky Palmer, Felix DeGeyter, Roland Taber, Steve & Shirley Rayl, Richard Hawk and John & Jo Harris. Roger related that **Myrna Andrews** is in Saint Frances hospital. She has been there for about four weeks and is not doing well. You are encouraged to send a card to **Myrna Andrews, St. Frances Hospital, 6161 South Yale, Tulsa, Ok. 74135, Room 3336**. The family has asked that there be no visitors at this time.

**Marvin Luke** broke his wrist about 3 weeks ago and had to have surgery. He is in a lot of discomfort, but we were pleased he could attend the meeting. Roger received a message from the **Heart of America Corvair Owners Association** (Kansas City) announcing the date for the next *Great Plains Corvair Roundup*. It will be September 21, 22, 23, 2007. You can begin making your reservations for that show now. **Felix DeGeyter** announced that **Glen Pray's** book on the Cord vehicle can now be ordered. Call him if you want one. Felix also reminded us of a car show to be held in conjunction with the digging-up of the buried Plymouth at the Civic Center the weekend of June 15, 16, 17.. We will be determining if we want to take our cars to that show. **Marilyn Ash** made a report on the **Tulsa Auto Show**. The show will be held at the Tulsa IPE building from March 13 through 18. Our show theme is **"HAPPY BIRTHDAY OKLAHOMA!"** Marilyn has been working on posters with pictures and biographies of famous Oklahoman's. There will be wrapped (empty boxes) packages in each car and a brass easel by each car holding a poster. Marilyn is asking for members to wrap from 3 to 5 boxes in bright wrapping paper and bows. Red, Yellow, Blue and Green are preferred. Inside the car will be something concerning the person or persons on the poster.

Also, Marilyn needs a few props, such as a silver Crown (Miss America), Foot ball and Helmet (Troy Aikman, Dallas Cowboys), Basketball (Marques Haynes, Harlem Globetrotters), Movie Clapboard (for director Ron Howard). Cowboy hats and western articles. Toy holster and guns for Gene Autry car. (stick horse, lunch

buckets, comic books, neck scarf's, etc). Jim Brewer said he could provide a Guitar for the car on Country Music Singers, and John and Jo Harris agreed to provide a baseball, bat and glove for the Mickey Mantle car. Marilyn still needs ideas for the Astronauts' car, the Politicians' car, and the Actors' car.

Marilyn also encouraged members to purchase the **Green Country Corvaire name badge** if they don't have them and to purchase, through her, the black **Oklahoma Centennial shirts** to wear to the March show. The shirts, sizes **Small through X-Large**, will cost **\$13.50** with tax and shipping: **XXL is \$14.50** and **XXX is \$15.50**. She needs your order as soon as possible to ensure that the shirts will be here by the next meeting on March 2nd.

All business was concluded and the meeting was adjourned.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Marilyn Ash, our Treasurer, reports a bank balance of **\$2,111.62** as of February 5, 2007. Your continued support of the Club by payment of your dues is essential to the success of the Club. Thank you for your support!

**DUES REMINDER:** The following members' dues are now due or overdue:

**Overdue:** Taylor Brown, Art Maimbourg, Larry Mills,

March: Lloyd Anderson, Felix DeGeyter,

April: Marvin Luke, Roger Scott, Van Upky, Ron Walton

Please pay the \$15 dues to Marilyn Ash, GCCG Treasurer, either in person or by mailing a check to 4250 S. Oswego, Tulsa, OK 74135.

**LOOKING FOR ACTIVITY IDEAS:** If you have an idea for a cruise or activity for 2007 please contact Roger, Marvin or Marilyn. Your input is requested. One suggestion is the Starbird Auto Museum at Grand Lake.

**CORVAIRE STATION WAGONS:** (Reprinted from *Old Cars*, July 16, 1998)

By 1961 Chevrolet decided a Corvaire station wagon was needed. After all, a string of competing cars, like the Ford Falcon, Mercury Comet, Oldsmobile F-85, Buick Special, Pontiac Tempest, Plymouth Valiant, Dodge Lancer, Studebaker Lark and Rambler American, had wagons in their catalogs. When first introduced in 1961 the Corvaire station wagon came in two models: the Lakewood 500 and Lakewood 700. The Lakewood name was inspired by the designations for full size Chevrolet wagons, like Brookwood and Parkwood. Chevrolet further expanded the Corvaire lineup with the addition of the Loadside and Rampside pickups, the Corvan, and the Greenbrier Sports Wagon. A rear-engine car makes a less-than-perfect station wagon. The engine location cuts into the cargo space and creates a rather high and inconvenient load floor. Of course, Chevrolet was quick to point out some advantages-like a lockable front trunk-

which was something no other station wagon had.

Several modifications were required to convert the Corvaire four-door sedan into a four-door station wagon. They included a slightly higher roof line, revised doors, revised rear side glass and a counter-balanced lift-gate. The rear-mounted, air-cooled engine created additional problems. Engine cooling was accomplished with the help of louvers in the top of the rear fenders. Larger 7.00 x 14 tires and a beefed-up rear suspension were required to handle the extra-heavy loads the station wagon was designed to carry. With the rear seat folded, 58 cu. ft. of goods could be carried. Another 10



cu. ft. of cargo could be accommodated under the hood. A load in front enhanced the weight distribution when the rear cargo area was loaded.

The people-carrying capacity of the Corvair Lakewood wagon was rated at six passengers. That seemed amazing to motorists of the day, who were used to giant-size wagons. Predictably, the Corvair station wagons were not hot-selling models. A mere 5,591 Lakewood 500's and 20,451 Lakewood 700's were built for the United States marketplace. Another 331 and 545 respectively were produced for Canada. In comparison, Ford sold nearly 120,000 Falcon wagons and over 26,000 Comet wagons in 1961.

The Corvair wagons were competitively priced with Falcon Squires. The Lakewood 500 listed for \$2,266 and the 700 was priced at \$2,330. However, value oriented wagon buyers saw the Falcons, and other American compacts, as better wagons for the money. The base Corvair 500 line was dropped for 1962 and the Lakewood name disappeared. However, the wagon-model count stayed the same. In addition to the 700 model, there was a Monza 900 wagon. In 1962 wagon sales were even worse: 3,716 Corvair 700's and 2,362 Monza 900's. Another 68 Corvair 700's and 205 Monza 900's were produced in Canada.



By 1962 Chevrolet had a new car that could go toe-to-toe with the Falcon Squire. It was the very conventional Chevy II, which came as a two and four door wagon. All Corvair wagon production ceased in March, 1962 after a much more popular model, the Corvair convertible, was introduced.

## **TULSA AUTO SHOW: MARCH 15-18, 2007, EXPO SQUARE.**

Green Country Corvair Group is once again participating in the Tulsa Auto Show at the Tulsa Fairgrounds. Marilyn Ash and Gary Baxter are leading the Club in coordinating our efforts. They need our help. We are asking all Club members to participate in this event irrespective of whether your car is being displayed. We need help in putting the display together, acting as hosts and hostesses during the show and tearing down and storing the display. Details for the show will be discussed at the March business meeting, March 2, at the Full Cup Restaurant. Make plans to attend and be ready to sign up to help.

Here is a reminder of our effort last year. We decided to "tone-down" our effort this year. Marilyn has come up with a theme of "**Happy Birthday Oklahoma**" which features prominent persons from Oklahoma. It promises to be a winning idea. Gary has selected cars from members who have not displayed much in the past to offer some variety in our exhibit. Watch your Rear View for pictures from the 2007 Tulsa Auto Show.



## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY OKLAHOMA: ENJOY OUR CENTENNIAL**

The REAR VIEW is published monthly by Green Country Corvair Group, Inc. In August 1977 Green Country Corvair Group (GCCG) became chapter # 744 of the Corvair Society of America (CORSAs). GCCG is a non-profit organization incorporated under the laws of Oklahoma. Annual dues for GCCG are \$15. Membership in CORSAs is also encouraged. Contact any officer listed below for information. GCCG meets the first Friday of the month at 6:00pm at Full Cup Restaurant in Tulsa.

Non-commercial ads are free to members on a 'space available basis'. Call or write the editor for information concerning commercial advertising. All articles, ads, technical tips, etc., must be submitted by the board meeting date to be included in the next issue. Articles can be sent to Roger Scott at [roger13@mindspring.com](mailto:roger13@mindspring.com) :

**GCCG MERCHANDISE:** The Club has a new jacket complete with logo.

The Club also has adopted a knit golf shirt and a cap with the logo embroidered. All items are available to all members by special order. Also name-tags are available with club logo and your name, also by special order.

To order merchandise or to suggest new club items, contact our resident rag merchant **Marvin Luke at 250-1500**, or see him at the next club meeting.

**CORVAIR PARTS SUPPLIERS:**  
Clark's Corvair Parts, Inc. <http://www.corvair.com/>  
Route 2, Shelburne Falls, MA, 01370  
Phone: 413-625-2558 Catalog: \$5.00

Corvair Underground <http://www.corvairunderground.com/>  
P.O. Box 339, Dundee, OR, 97115  
Phone: 1-800-825-VAIR Catalog: \$4.00

**GCCG Web Sites:**  
<http://clubs.hemmings.com/grcountrycorvaircsa>  
<http://www.tulsacorvair.com/>

**OFFICERS:**  
President- Roger Scott, Phone: 742-8710  
Vice-President- Marvin Luke, Phone: 250-1500  
Secretary/Treasurer-Marilyn Ash, Phone: (918) 245-0888  
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Jim Brewer, Phone: 250-0026  
Editor *In Absentia* - John Zink  
Editor *In Quandary* - Roger Scott  
Technical Committee-  
Early - Tim Palmer. Phone: 371-6434.  
Late - Gary Baxter. Phone: 645-8451  
FC's- J.C. Ash, Phone 245-0888  
Tech Sessions – J.C. Ash, Phone: 245-0888

Remember our website at [www.tulsacorvair.com](http://www.tulsacorvair.com) Watch this site for current news about your Club. Please inform your officers if you note any problems with the site.

**REMEMBER: GREAT PLAINS CORVAIR ROUNDUP: KANSAS CITY, SEPTEMBER 21-23, 2007**

**NEXT MEETING: March 2, 2007 AT 6:00 P.M. AT FULL CUP RESTAURANT: BE THERE TO SEE YOUR FRIENDS**

Green Country Corvair Group  
4250 S. Oswego  
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74135

**FIRST CLASS**

To: \_\_\_\_\_  
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