

Heart of America Corvair Owners Association
VairCor



November 2021

Volume 57-11



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October Meeting

It was a gorgeous day for driving, and five Corvairs (along with their owners) showed up to the October meeting, with two of them being convertibles.

We had a bit of a late start for the meeting and things started off with member chair Don Wagner mentioning no new members. However, in true Corvair owner fashion, there was an impromptu discussion on methods and materials for cleaning, buffing, and making our cars look their best!

Following that, Mike Dawson gave the treasurer's report, informing us that we have money in the bank and reimbursing Cliff Carlino for the Lyceum Theater event.

When it came to events, HACOIA represented well at the Great Plains Corvair Roundup in North Little Rock, Arkansas. Not only did a good number of our members attend it (we had 26), but several received awards. Mike Kliethermes and Terry Kalp both brought home trophies along with Stan Schultz. Finally, Don Wagner

earned some recognition for being the eldest member to actually drive to the event. Nice work everyone, HACOIA rocks!

Social chair Scott Allison mentioned events that are still upcoming, including the Luna Tuna at Terry Kalp's on the 16th and the chili feed at the Hoelting airport on October 23. Also, there is the Christmas dinner and party on December 3, so everyone who plans on attending should remember to RSVP.

The next focus of the evening was the Roundup next year, which we will be hosting. Kat King didn't have much to report but there are still volunteers needed to chair events and locations, including the hospitality room. Events like this take careful consideration and planning.

Finally, this is the time of year for elections and new officers. If you are asked, please consider helping, because we're a cool group of people! In any case, I hope to see many of you on November 9.

HACOA Calendar at a glance

Date	Event
Tuesday, November 9	Monthly meeting, Paul and Jack's Tavern, North Kansas City, MO
Friday, December 3	HACOA Christmas dinner/party, Independence, MO
????	Other events as the cold weather sets in?

Presidential Ramblings

Almost Done

Hello from Montreal, Quebec. As I write this, my penultimate newsletter article, I am in Montreal for a work trip. I will be here for 10 nights so it's a pretty long trip. Regrettably I will not be at my last regular meeting as your President. What was that? Did I just hear an audible sigh of relief? Oh wait, that was from me.

Just kidding, it has been a privilege to serve for the last two years as the President of our club. It has been challenging at times for sure. It was incredibly difficult in early 2020 when we had to cancel our meetings. The board did our best to continue meeting and it was great when we got together again in the park. I didn't realize how much I enjoy seeing everyone until it was gone. 2021 has been a little smoother except for the renovations at Paul & Jack's that have made our meetings a little less private. I'd like to thank all the members who have continued to attend the meetings in these uncertain times and I also commend those who felt their health demanded they stay home. I do hope that in the near future we will all be able to be comfortable returning to the meetings. Wow, that sounds like a broken record doesn't it?

As I said before this is OUR club. Everyone can and should be involved in one way or another. Next year we'll get that chance as the Great Plains Corvair Roundup returns to the Kansas City area. But even sooner than that you all have a chance to make a difference. The November meeting is our annual election. We will be replacing the President, Vice President, Secretary and at least one board member who have met the term limit or decided not to continue for other reasons. I know our nominating committee has at least one candidate for each spot, and that makes the election easier. But if you want to make a difference in our club DO NOT BE AFRAID to nominate yourself or someone else you believe would do a good job in any or all of the positions. Every spot is up for reelection every year – no one is guaranteed (or required) to hold the position for the term limit of 2 years. November is really when you can make a difference in the direction and decisions of the club for at least the next year.

Another important upcoming event is the Annual Christmas Party. I'm sure there will be information elsewhere in this newsletter so please read it, RSVP and come to have a great time!

I'd like to thank all the members of the board and committees during my time as President – they are the ones that really do the work.

Take care everyone and I will see you at the Christmas Party.

-Travis

The Preventive Maintenance Series

Mike Dawson

Winter Things (Revisited With Some Updates)

After polling at a HACO meeting, it turned out that half of the members store their cars during the winter months and the other half will drive their Corvairs at least occasionally. The following may be useful no matter which half you belong to.

Gas Tanks: If you park a Corvair with an original gas tank in your house garage be sure to inspect the tank bottom and the sending unit seal. This can be an extremely important issue, particularly if your furnace or water heater are anywhere in the area.

Oil: Store with fresh oil, this will minimize the acids available to attack engine parts when not being driven. And if you drive your car in the winter clean oil makes cold starting much easier on the engine.

Fuel: After reviewing several good sources it appears that it is best to avoid ethanol if you store your car all winter and to leave the tank almost empty so you will have fresh seasonal gas soon after startup in the spring. Gas is blended for winter and summer so keep that in mind. Also all the old car sources I checked strongly suggest you add Sta-bil to the tank and drive for a few minutes to circulate it. That is also mentioned in my new snow blower owners' guide which also states that fuel with ethanol will start to deteriorate after only 30 days.

Fuel Antifreeze: Using HEET to absorb small amounts of water in your tank and carburetor bowls is a good idea as long as you use the correct type. The yellow bottle is worthless and only adds volume to your gas. It contains methyl alcohol and water will settle out of it into little beads when it sets (try it!). The red bottles contain isopropyl alcohol which absorbs water and keeps it in solution. If you look at a bottle of rubbing alcohol it (usually) contains 30% water and never settles out of solution.

Battery: A battery will only have 30% of its cranking capacity at zero degrees. Try taking your battery inside overnight or leave a (incandescent) light on next to it. You will notice a big improvement. A very low or discharged battery will freeze so take whatever steps you want to avoid that. For an all winter storage, remove the battery, keep it in the house and charge it once or twice during that time. Battery minders are also a good idea.

Tires: Tires lose pressure as the temperature goes down so add additional air before storage to avoid having to do it in the cold weather. If you have a snow beater, use of an "all weather radial" or "radial snow tire" is best. Look at the outer tread line, the chunkier the tread the better it will be in snow, although slightly noisier. Perfect alignment and tire pressure is mandatory for driving on slick roads and all four tires must match. GM recommended 60 pounds of extra weight in the trunk for winter and remember to shift into neutral in Powerglide cars as you approach a stop on slick pavement. If your chokes are still on this is a must.

Things That Change During Storage: Fuel pump screws, worm drive fuel line clamps, and fan belts should be checked in the spring. Accelerator pump cups shrink and harden when dry but may survive after a few days of driving. I am not positive but I think Sta-bil helps with the pump cup issue.

Avoid Starting Fluid (Ether): Instead, use a spray can of carburetor cleaner (Gumout). The severe knocking you get from using ether can break top piston rings and make intake valve seats fall out. The carburetor cleaner is a good enrichment and is much less prone to pre-ignition knocking.

Tuning: Winter accentuates any shortcomings in your ignition or carburetion system. Spark plug gap and deposit condition, plug wire boot condition (and wire in general), distributor cap condition and points/condenser all affect spark output. Points can oxidize when stored for long periods so clean in the spring just to be safe. Be sure your resistor by-pass is hooked up properly for cold starting. Remove your distributor breaker plate and check the movement of springs and weights. Hardened grease in cold weather may cause the weights to be slow in responding. Check your accelerator pump output, choke valves and pull-off condition and their adjustment. Turbo engines will usually never start if the chokes are not completely closed in winter temperatures and the choke cover may need seasonal adjustment.

Miscellaneous: Never store cars on gravel or dirt. The Midwest humidity rises daily into the body and is not blown out by the airflow from driving. Car covers can cause terminal mildew for the same reasons, they should only be used for indoor storage (dust, blown solvents, etc.)

All Powerglide transmissions leak down from the converter during storage, overfilling the pan. Your car may leak a little, a lot or none at all depending on the condition of your shifter cable, pan gasket or manual valve lever o-ring.

A grease job just before storage ensures any water or dirt accumulated is forced out and does not spend the winter in the various joints.

Keep it fun!

Classifieds

The Tool Crib

Club tools for rent

Contact: Ken Ragan

212 Warner Rd, Bonner Springs, KS 66012
913-422-5778 E-mail: kenrragan@gmail.net

Tool	Deposit	Monthly rental fee
Harmonic balancer puller	\$3.00	\$1.00
Ramps, auto	\$4.00	\$1.00
Torque wrenches		
½ inch drive 20-150 ft/lb	\$15.00	\$2.00
¾ inch drive 100-1000 in/lb	\$15.00	\$2.00
Floor jacks and stands	\$25.00	\$3.50
Ring groove cleaner	\$3.00	\$1.00
Dwell/tach meter	\$5.00	\$1.00
Greaser: Fan and idler bearing	\$5.00	\$1.00
Ken's advice	\$.02	Grain of salt
Hubs: Rear (towing LM PowerGlide)	\$5.00	\$1.00
Pushrod tube extractor	\$10.00	\$2.00

Internally regulated
63 amp Corvair
alternators \$85
exchange



Rebuilt harmonic
balancer
\$105 exchange for a
rebuildable core

Rebuilt Corvair
starters with
solenoid \$90
exchange




Mike Dawson
mdawson1961@sbcglobal.net
816-322-4057


Professionally rebuilt Corvair clutch disc on a
welded center Borg & Beck core with a thickness
of .325" \$55 exchange with same core.

Reproduced end plates for the 12 and 8
plate oil cooler. These are the two pieces of
sheet metal that help keep all the hot air
from the oil cooler moving out the bottom
instead of back in to the engine
compartment. \$10 each





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816-678-8860
hrmoore14@gmail.com

- Dick Berger **still** has several sets of wheels and tires for sale. Most are 14" diameter. Let him know if you're interested. 678-650-4246

1964 Monza convertible

White with black top and turquoise interior, 110HP with a Powerglide. Nearly new whitewall radials with 3 prong wire wheel covers along with door edge guards, outside mirrors, push button radio, and others. Car is very nice and has 29,000 original miles with the only items not original being the tires and a Clark's dual exhaust system. Looking to get \$15,000 but slightly negotiable. Contact Trueman Ervin 816-630-2382.

Classifieds, continued

Wilson Liter has several items for sale, including:

- 1966 transaxle, code AA (3.27 non-posi) and V8 bellhousing: \$400
- 140HP engine (code T0223RN). Engine turns over but has not been apart: \$600

Wilson Liter 417-667-6927. wilsonliter@hotmail.com

Free-

- Late model block with two pulled studs (can probably be easily repaired).

Has 164 ci crank (will need turned) and -891 (110/140 HP) cam.

- 4 late model 13" wheels with old tires (decent tread but show cracking) and Monza wheel covers.

Contact Chris Green (call or text) 913-369-5861 or email: hacoa1news@gmail.com.

Other Events and Tidbits

2021 Great Plains Corvair Roundup

The 2021 Great Plains Corvair RoundUp is in the books, and it was a fun chapter to experience. I headed out Friday morning and met up with a coworker for lunch in Belle Vista, Arkansas. I had my first Pumpkin brew of the year along with a great visit. I came into Little Rock via the interstates, due to the aforementioned side trip and I would imagine the scenery was beautiful. I was doing the speed limit in the 65 four-door in blue, Gonzo, and felt like I was still in the way of everyone else on the road. If this is what "no tolerance" on the speed limit indicates then I'd not like to see the "we don't enforce anything" aspect. It would have been great but there were so many semi-trucks, campers, and RV's that couldn't come near the speed limit through the hills. The experience was very reminiscent of the game Frogger, and I felt like the frog.

I arrived at the Wyndham RiverFront Resort just in time to watch the tech session attendees leave the room. But, Elvis's tools were still out so I was able to get a copy of the session (thank you Don Wagner) and see the tools. A few of us then headed to a local brewery, Flyway, for some brew and food before returning to see Terry Kalp win the Valve Cover Races. Not to diminish his achievement but it may appear the attraction of this event is dwindling as there were only 9 races participating. That's a lot of setup time, room requirements, and tear down time (not considering the effort in relocating the trailer every year) for such a small audience.

Saturday was fun filled with the People's Choice Car Show in the morning, a break for lunch, and then the Fun run in the afternoon before the Banquet that evening. I counted 30 cars in the park adjacent to the hotel next to the river. The weather was perfect and the scenery, the cars and the river, was fantastic. The group had a fancy for an Irish Brewery, Cragreen's, that afternoon for lunch. Dominique and Corly Allen, Terry Kalp, and I then loaded into Gonzo for the Fun Run. I had a great time with the three navigators, it takes that many to keep me on track, and the drive around Little Rock was fun...as promised. Terry and I, and official driver and navigator, participated in the challenge mid-run and both thought that we did okay; Terry with 2 20-point fan belt tosses and I with 11 points at Cornhole. Corly was the elected dice roller and rolled an amazing 10 and 11, for a total of 21, in the two rolls. We found that we only missed one answer on the route, which we believe had 22 questions, so our total score ended up being 52 which was good enough to get us second place in the event. We were stunned to say the least but also very thankful that we didn't have to track mileage as I think we spent more time off course than on, but we had fun (it says so right on the trophy)! Travis & Marcia Bolton scored the same as Scott & Terry on the questions but didn't have our secret weapon, Corly, rolling their dice.

After the fun run there was one more brewery to taste test, Diamond Bear Brewing, and then prepare for the Banquet. The Banquet was beautiful with custom made center pieces on the table. I found the salad, chicken, potatoes, vegetables, and roll delightful. We did however select the wrong table to sit as individuals at one table were the lucky winners of 6, if my memory is correct, of the raffle drawings. And then Jerry Pentzer offered up a cash prize, in an attempt to level the playing field, which also went to a resident of that table. Gary Jones did not fail however, as always his numbers were called not once but twice...he's buying my next lottery ticket.

Many HACO A members received recognition at the Banquet; Don Wagner was the senior most individual that drove his Corvair to the event, a donation/recognition sponsored by Fred & Sharon Bybee. It should be noted that HACO A still had 4 standing at the final elimination round, that's impressive! Stan Schultz received 2nd place for Late Closed and the Clyde Jones Memorial Best of Show Award in the People's Choice Car Show, Michael Kliethermes received 1st place in Late Open in the People's Choice Car Show and 3rd place in the Valve Cover Races. Terry Kalp received 1st place in the Valve Cover Races and he and I received an award for 2nd place in the Fun Run. Teresa Miller received a 1st place trophy for her Rampside in the People's Choice Car Show, I apologize that I failed to note which place. I'm likely forgetting at least one person, without a navigator I do get sidetracked rather easily.

Kat King addressed the group with information on the upcoming 2022 GPCR U which will be held in St. Joseph, MO. The casino also destroyed and provided enough brand new decks of cards for Kat to distribute one to each attendant at the Banquet. Dominique Allen was the lucky participant to have the green dot under his chair and therefore took home 2 Corvair Hot Wheels.

Sunday morning everyone headed out pretty early with the exception of Dick Berger who volunteered to drag the Valve Cover Track Trailer home, he was therefore at the mercy of others who had not loaded the track into the trailer. The club sincerely appreciates Dick for taking care of this task for us. Gary Jones, Jerry Lentz, Travis & Marcia Bolton, invited me on a more leisurely drive home out 40 to 65 to 13 to 44 to 7 to 71 HWYs. Gary, Jerry, and I stopped for lunch in Bolivar where Travis & Marcia Bolton headed on home. After lunch we went out 13 HWY to HWY and eventually I-49/71 HWY. Low and behold, when I merged onto 71 HWY who did I find but Dick Berger with the Valve Cover Trailer in tow. We traded greetings from the seats of our respective cars and that was my last sight of club members for the weekend.

I'm thankful that everyone made it down and back without major incidents and for the ACC group of folks for hosting such a great event and getting us all together again. The HACO A members that I can recall present were: Terry Kalp, Gary Jones, Jerry Lentz, Travis & Marcia Bolton, Dominique & Corly Allen, Mike & Sandy Dawson, Linda & Sandy Reese, Fred & Sharon Bybee, Barb & Don Wagner, John & Teresa Miller, Stan Schultz, Michael & Janet Kliethermes, Kat & Chaz King, Dick Berger, Jerry & Donna Pentzer, and (oh yea) me. That's 26 HACO A members out of 80 at the Banquet, HACO A was very well represented! *Herding the group is always a challenge so we apologize that the Millers and Stan Shultz are not in the pictures and that Gary Jones only made it in for the last 2.*



Lake Garnett Grand Prix Revival

There were some decisions for me to make. Knowing that I wouldn't be able to make it to the Roundup due to double class work and the 5+ hour drive, it was a toss-up if I'd even be able to make the 1 hour drive to Garnett, Kansas, for the Lake Garnett Grand Prix Revival. I ended up not doing the autocross on Saturday to take care of some homework but was able to make it to the full track day on Sunday, October 10. The weather was beautiful but a threat of rain in the afternoon was ever looming, but, thankfully, it decided to wait until hours later to rain.

As with last year, I was able to talk to a lot of people, and every person who came to my car had nothing but praise for Corvairs, which, as we know, is not always the case at typical car shows! My car surely looked better than last year, as I was sporting cool pink numbers (thank you Dick Berger!) instead of the green painter's tape I used last year. After talking to some Datsun dudes I met last year and a couple of younger guys parked next to me in their Honda CRX, we got ready and headed to the starting grid. I was in the 80 mph group, the same as last year, and I recognized some familiar cars. The track was great and so were the other drivers, but for some reason I was timid during the first lap or two. However, I soon was driving like a fool and opened those secondaries to let the engine wind up before shifting. Yeah, that felt good again!

After the run, I parked in the paddock and the track marshal informed me that my brake lights weren't working. If I didn't get them working, I could still run but I would be the last one out. That was fine with me but I was boggled because I checked them the day before in my self-tech and they were working. Several friendly bystanders came by to look and wonder but a pair of gentlemen stayed and one, also named Chris, went to grab his test light. After testing and checking, we found that the terminal for the taillight fuse was rusty and preventing good contact. With a little scraping, I had lights again! I still opted to be the last car just in case, despite a hotfoot Datsun 510 driver wanting to be last so he could pass people.

The second run was going fine until halfway through one of the laps my throttle felt strange, acting like it wanted to be on cruise control and revving between shifts. I kept going but then noticed a distinct lack of power. The car was running fine but just didn't have the oomph that it should have, so I elected to pit. Upon inspection, I found the linkage to my driver side primary carburetor had come detached so I was running on 3 carbs at full throttle! Although I was bummed about missing the last lap or two, I was happy to find the reason for the power loss. After my sessions were done, I spent some time talking to Ken Ragan, who was working one of the corners, and the gentlemen I met earlier, who knew HACO club member Ed Parks, because they also live in Marshall, Missouri. Small world! In any case, it was a fun event and I hope to be back again next year! Anyone want to join me?



Trunk-or-Treat

October 30 promised to be a beautiful day and it lived up to the reputation as several HACO A members made their way to a trunk-or-treat at Lake Contrary in St. Joseph, Missouri. Kat King with her granddaughter driving Kit, Ray and Carol Sego in their car Sally, along with their daughters Leonna and Sherry driving PunkySu, Dean driving Josephine, and new member Brian in his '61 red coupe. Trick or treat!



KU Solar Car Club

Kat King

The KU Solar Car team is building a fully solar powered electric vehicle to compete in the 2022 Summer Formula Sun Grand Prix. This annual competition invites teams from around the world to participate in a three day long endurance race on grand prix or road style closed courses. The FSGP also serves as a qualifying event to the American Solar Challenge race, which is a multi day endurance rally across North America.



Along with competing in races, the club's overall mission is to "advocate for sustainable technology and promote learning and interdisciplinary cooperation for students throughout the university." So far, there have been many different students who have joined the team to help contribute to this goal and build the car.

Currently, the team is putting final adjustments on the car and wrapping up the manufacturing phase. The intent is to test and modify the car during the school year to ensure that it is ready for the summer race. Additionally, we will start the design process for the next version of the car. This gives the students working on the car many different types of learning experiences. The general design for the first car consists of a steel tube chassis with a fiberglass aeroshell. Solar panels will sit on top of the aeroshell to generate



the necessary power for the car. An electrical system will assist in storing the electricity in a battery pack and control the motors and display system. All of these systems have been designed to help the car be as efficient as possible.

Don't forget to RSVP to Taylor West if you're planning on attending the HACO A Christmas dinner/party!

DINNER BUFFETS

All buffets include Coffee, Iced Tea and Soft Drinks

HACO A Christmas Banquet

December 3, 2021

Social Hour Strats at 5pm

Dinner Served around 6pm

Cash Bar

BAKED LASAGNA,
BAKED CHICKEN
& CANNELLONI FLORENTINE

Tossed Salad, Broccoli Normandy
& Hot Garlic Toast

Remember→ CORSA Membership Perks:

- 1) CORSA now has a formal relationship with Mecum auctions! Your membership in CORSA now permits you to purchase the \$200 bidders registration for just \$100!!
 - 2) We have many fresh new items of CORSA-wear now available on our website. www.corvair.org
<<http://www.corvair.org>>. We have a new vendor, new artwork and new items. I think you'll be excited about the selection.
 - 3) Please remember, if you have members who are new to CORSA, they will receive a free copy of the "Corvair Basics" book with their paid membership in CORSA.
-

HACOA birthdays

November	
Name	Date
Dick Berger	3
Patrick Reavey	3
Connie Whitman	5
Joan Bennett	7
Chuck Morris	7
Kevin Deneault	10
Marty O'Mara	10
Keith Hammett	12
Kat King	13
Sherman Rutherford	16