



Group Corvair Comments

GROUP CORVAIR'S NEWSLETTER FOR THE NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA



VOLUME L, No. 1

January 2022



Appropriate to the Season
From a Dutch Corvair Brochure

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

January 2022

18 – **Group Corvair Meeting**, 7:30 p.m. It's going to be a Zoom meeting! Details will be sent to all members.

20 – CORSA meetup via Zoom. The topic this month will be “Let’s go Racing” with Rich Norris. You must register in advance, after which CORSA will send you a confirmation email from Zoom:

https://www.corvair.org/index.php?option=com_civicrm&task=civicrm/mailling/url&u=445&qid=319722

February

15 -- Group Corvair Meeting

March

15 -- Group Corvair Meeting

April

19 -- Group Corvair Meeting

July 2022

12 – 16 – CORSA International Convention, Peachtree City, GA. Host hotel is the Crowne Plaza Atlanta SW Peachtree City Hotel and Conference Center. Convention rates are \$119 + taxes; the hotel is taking reservations via IHG reservations at 877-227-6963. Use the Group Name: CORSA and the Group Code: TUS for these rates.

GROUP CORVAIR 2022 OFFICERS and Points of Contact

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From the Oval Garage

Bob Hall

Happy New Year to everyone and best wishes for some sunny weather in between the snowstorms so you can keep your Corvair projects on track. I’ve brought the Greenbrier’s battery into the basement and hooked it up to the Battery Tender to keep it ready for the first warm weekend. The job of replacing the sway/stabilizer bar bushings has been put on hold for now due to the weather, but I have started “worrying” off nuts and bolts on my spare GB front suspension that is in the basement as a further step toward rebuilding it. I’m also making some headway consolidating Corvair doors, seats and body panels in one corner of the basement.

At the December meeting Bob Walker brought us up to date on his engine rebuild—he’s sorted the rear housing alignment problem—and we heard from Jerry Yates, Byron LaMotte and Dave Edsinger concerning their Corvair activities. I hope more club members can join us via Zoom for the January meeting. Don Hibbard has promised to give it a try and here’s hoping we can get Ron Fedorczak to join us as well. Jim will send an email invitation before the date. We’re looking for the opportunity for a Tech Session in someone’s (preferably heated) garage this winter so let us know if you want any help.

And stay safe. Wearing masks (**especially N95, KN95**) and washing your hands works. Remember your Corvair knowledge is irreplaceable.

Minutes of the December Virtual Meeting

Marolyn Simpson

At 7:30 on the evening of December 21 Jim Simpson opened the Zoom meeting and started admitting the first of the eight participants. There was general conversation while we were waiting for everyone to log in. Bob Hall, president, started the official meeting at 7:45.

The minutes from the November meeting were approved as they appeared in the newsletter. Jim gave the treasurer's report. There was income from dues. After the treasurer's report there was a discussion of the club's expenses and the need, if any, for collecting dues in 2022. (Jim Simpson noted that the Northern Virginia Corvair Club had suspended dues for the coming year.) Bob Walker made a motion to suspend dues for the 2022 year. Jerry Yates seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Bob H. said he would like for Byron LaMotte to host another tech session in 2022. Byron said that he would be happy to. The last one was a big success. We will probably wait for warmer weather for that though.

There was a discussion on the progress of Jim's car which is the shop for refurbishing. The body work has been finished and the primer painting is done. It's now waiting for them to do the actual painting. The members discussed the DuPont "Chromabase" paint which had been used on the car in its 1997 restoration and will be used again when the car is painted. Organic solvent-based paints have been phased out so it's hard to find a source.

Bob H. again requested that members write up stories about Corvairs for the newsletter. They can be stories about experiences from years past, recent stories of life with a Corvair, or some encounter with a Corvair in the media, a comment from a friend, or Corvair plans in the future. We would like to hear your stories.

December is usually when the club holds its election of officers. The current slate of officers will continue to serve in the new year, but we are still missing a vice president. Anyone interested?

Returning to a project that has been ongoing for some time, Bob H., and Jim plan to get together soon to add another club officer's signature to our account at the bank.

Ron Fedorczak has been having a problem with his 1967 Corvair – it backfires. Members had several suggestions as to what could be causing the problem, and several would be willing to have a tech session to help if Ron would like to do that. [Note: Since the meeting Jim talked to Ron about a possible tech session but Ron was not sure he needed it at this time.]

Dave Edsinger has acquired a 1965 Corsa coupe that he wants to use as a daily driver. It is essentially a barn-find with 60,000 miles, zero rust, and is butternut yellow.

This brought up the Ted Brown Electronic Fuel Injection project. (www.corvair-efi.com) Ted Brown has built a system using modified Corvair carburetors and the long-running "Megasquirt" open-source electronic fuel injection controller to provide nearly bolt-on throttle body fuel injection for Corvairs. (Currently he's having supply problems and can't sell any systems.)

There was a discussion on winterizing Corvairs. The best advice: drive the car every few weeks instead of just letting it sit.

With Covid cases spiking again in this area, we decided to continue with Zoom meetings for the foreseeable future.

The meeting ended at 9:07.

Treasurer's Note

Jim Simpson

As you might have noticed in the minutes from the last virtual meeting, the club decided to suspend dues for 2022. A couple members did send in their dues in December; I've contacted them, and they said to keep the money as a donation to Group Corvair.

This was very generous, but I'd prefer that the club consider these "advance" dues to be applied to 2023 or whenever we decide to resume. I plan to bring this up at our next virtual meeting.

Tech Topics

Jim Simpson

Engine & Transaxle Cradle: The San Francisco Bay Area chapter of CORSA's newsletter *The Spyder Web* had a short version of Allan Lacki's design for an engine and transaxle cradle. Alan wanted to make one with easy to use and obtain materials (wood and bolts) that would interface with a common ATV jack. There have been many articles in the past on building duplicates of the original steel cradles, but they require welding and the like. This design seems simple, easy, cheap, and flexible. Bob Walker informed me that he had built a modified version (one that can be disassembled for storage) and that it worked very well.

Rather than either reproducing the *Spyder Web* article since it was a summary, or Allan Lacki's complete article (it's pretty long), I thought I'd just include a couple images and the links to his original articles.

I do have one suggestion; pick up one of the Harbor Freight furniture dollies – the small size costs \$10 and will give you all four sets of wheels you need. They are smaller (about 3" diameter) than Allan specifies, so you may need to



add an extra inch wood pad between the caster wheels and the rest of the cradle to get the clearance needed for the ATV jack.

Here are the links to Allan's original articles:

[http://www.corvair.org/chapters/njace/engine cart and cradle instructions.pdf](http://www.corvair.org/chapters/njace/engine%20cart%20and%20cradle%20instructions.pdf)

[http://www.corvair.org/chapters/njace/engine cart isometric drawing.pdf](http://www.corvair.org/chapters/njace/engine%20cart%20isometric%20drawing.pdf)

Improved Linkages and other Parts: From the LeHigh Valley Corvair Club Newsletter *The Fifth Wheel*, Roger Parent out in California has been manufacturing a variety of neat items for Corvairs – full bearing throttle linkages, oil filter bolt adapter for oil pressure gauges and much more. Check his catalog:

<http://www.corvairs.org/RogerParentCatalog08-22-20.pdf>.

Vair Vendor

For Sale: (\$500 Price Reduction!) Five Clark's reproduction real wire wheels. Four used with Maxxis 185/80-13 tires and one new in the box. Four early model adapters, two knockoffs, and a lead hammer. One of the used wheels and one adapter has damaged teeth and notches. A 17-page PDF file with more details and many pictures available. Asking \$3000/OBO (\$500 price reduction), located near Petersburg, VA. Contact Wade Lanning at wblanning@comcast.com or call/text 804-586-1023.



For Sale: Pair of steel automobile ramps, \$40. Bob Hall, 301 213 9852, HallGrenn@aol.com



Clark's Corvair Parts®

Our catalog lists over 15,000 parts for your Corvair. We carry engine parts, body panels, upholstery and much more! There are 1,000's of reproduced items available, pages of technical information and lots of other helpful hints.



Clark's Corvair Parts® 400 Mohawk Trail, Shelburne Falls, MA 01370
(413)625-9776 www.corvair.com email: clarks@corvair.com

CORSA meet up

LET'S GO RACING!



with **RICK NORRIS!**

Rick will share his knowledge
and experience racing Corvairs

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20
9pm ET/ 8pm CT/ 6pm PT

If you are a CORSA Member, check your email.
To become a member, visit the CORSA website at
CORVAIR.ORG.

Question for Rick? Email: corsamembership@gmail.com