

Heart of America Corvair Owners Association

VairCor



January 2023

Volume 59-1



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December Meeting/Christmas Party







HACOA Calendar at a glance

Date	Event
Tuesday, January 10	Monthly meeting, Paul and Jack's Tavern, North Kansas City, MO
Saturday, January 21	Mid-winter tech session, Dawson residence, Belton, MO
Tuesday, February 14	Monthly meeting, Paul and Jack's Tavern, North Kansas City, MO

President's Tapping

January 2023

Happy New Year! I hope that everyone had a fantastic Christmas and is off to a happy New Year. I ask everyone to begin thinking about our 2023 socials and events. If you have been wanting to host an event or have an idea of where we as a group could gather please let Paula Roberts or myself know and we'll do our best to make it happen.

The 2022 Annual HACOA Christmas Party again did not disappoint. We had a smaller than normal turnout but that didn't impact the amount of fun that was had. The location was great and the food good but neither could hold a candle to the company. It was great seeing everyone that was able to attend. Thank you to Taylor West for taking this task on again this year and selecting a great place for us to gather. I will be asking for a volunteer to take charge of the 2023 Christmas Party plans so if you've had that special place in mind now is your time to make it happen.

The board will be choosing the recipient(s) of our Christmas Donation at the January meeting. So far suggestions have been made for the Nation Corvair Museum, Veterans Community Project, and City Union Mission. Please let myself or any other board member know if you have additional suggestions.

I received a call from Roscoe Yoder this month and he had lots of good news to share. First, he has joined CORSA and plans to join our local little club. Second, the Corvair made such a splash (no I'm not referring to any 'marking of territory') that we have been invited back in August of 2023. Lastly, since the prior exhibit primarily included stock examples he is now interested in the modified examples. That means engines through the hood, mid-engines, and any other customizations are being considered. I can think of many within our club that would be great to show off. If you have any interest please let me know so that we can start a list. My 66 custom Coudan (the Malivair or Coribu whichever sticks) will be the first on the list. We all should have plenty of time to get them dusted off and road worthy for the short trip to the KC Automotive Museum.

Every club member has access to the HACOA calendar at HACOA.org so please take the 2 minutes and put in events that you plan to attend so others know what is going on and have the opportunity to join you. If you do not remember your password that is not a problem, simply drop Travis Bolton an email and he'll get you taken care of. As a reminder, we also have a Photo Gallery on the home page and everyone has the access to upload photos that you may have of an event. The last entry was dated 2017 and we certainly don't want visitors to think that 2017 was the last time we all were together. I've personally added a few galleries and photos of what I have but I'm sure there are much better photographers than myself so please add any that you have to any existing gallery or create a new one for an event that I didn't note. I have put a help document on the site, in the help section, to assist with creating galleries and adding photos.

On a personal note, I've had the opportunity to don a Scooby Doo costume many times for various HACOIA events and this year I had the opportunity to don a Santa suit and deliver gifts to families in Belton with a great group of SCCA folks. This was a highlight of the holiday season for me and I feel blessed that I was able to participate in such a generous and special event. Any costume I don for either club always brings a smile to faces, young and old, and warms my heart.

Please take care of each other and yourselves as there appear to be many variations of bugs going around. My wish is that everyone is able to stay safe and healthy throughout the New Year. I look forward to seeing everyone at Paul & Jacks on the 10th of January for our first meeting of the club's 59th year.

Don't forget to RSVP to the Dawson's Mid-Winter Tech Session on the 21st of January!

Vairy Best Wishes and Happy New Year, Scott



The Preventive Maintenance Series

Mike Dawson

FC Shop Stuff

Below are topics that I have kept in an FC reference file when I ran across them in my garage. Although some have previously appeared in various publications, others may be new for FC owners.

Shock Absorbers: Because of the short wheelbase, the FC models originally had super duty shocks on the front with a 2 1/4" diameter body. Replacement with anything less causes a really choppy ride. I installed the Monroe Magnum 34750 with excellent results. Installation does require a minor adjustment: removal of about 1/8" from both the lower mounting slots. That shock is listed for the front of a big Dodge pickup and if you check auto supplier websites such as O'Reilly, you will find the specs are very close to the original Corvair shock. For the rear I use a less expensive gas shock from NAPA: 94002.

Steering Box Pitman Arm Nut: The large nut on the steering box pitman shaft may be loose, apparently from the factory since it does have a lock washer. I doubt that the arm could ever come off due to the fit and age but the nut can block a clutch pedal if it backs off very much. Check yours since several FC's have shown up with that problem over the years.

Steering Column Noise: Both of my Greenbriers (1962) and others began making creaking noises when the steering shaft was under a load. The problem is lack of reinforcement under the floor. Looking up from the ground, a triangular plate that supports the steering box and floor is 3/8" short of reaching the floor towards the rear. It needs to be welded on two sides to prevent flexing, noise and possible breaking.

Greenbrier Air Intakes: As part of noise abatement, insulation was glued to the inside of the paneling along the engine air intakes. This insulation comes off (looks like a rolled up tube) and will partially block the holes at the rear of the intake shaft. GM issued a TSB, so the problem must have begun occurring early. Not an easy job to correct, but necessary for proper engine cooling. You will have to remove the screws on the inner panel, pull the panel out and use a tool to reach in and pull the insulation out. Not used on trucks.

Vent and Antenna Work: You can quickly and easily remove the headlight buckets if you need to work on the antennae, vent doors or cables – makes vent cable attachment easy.

Resistor By-Pass Wire: The wire from the starter solenoid that provides 12V to the coil during starter operation was omitted from some early FC models. My '62 was missing its wire and I have found several other FC vehicles with the same problem. The small yellow wire in the two wire connector at the forward left side of the engine compartment will be present at the connector but dead ends in the harness. Check your coil: if the + side has only one wire with an asbestos wrap then your resistor by-pass wire is missing. Either install one from the two wire connector or track it down in the harness. The function is to provide a hotter spark during cranking which could come in handy in cold, wet weather.

Winter Helper: The '64 FC models had a door (GM called it a valve) added behind the front grill that could be shut for winter operation; this was necessitated by persistent air leaks from numerous areas in the front panel around grommets. For pre-'64 owners you can take off the front grill, disassemble, and cover the back with wide black electrical tape; it makes a big difference in winter highway driving.

Door Latch: The driver's door latch spring can break (available now from CCP) and will not latch because the teeth have rotated downward. The immediate fix is to pull back the handle or push in the button and rotate the teeth upward (counter-clock wise) until they stop. It will latch again until the next time you shut it wrong.

Truck Bed Drain Holes: Thanks to Smitty Smith for this one. The two bed drain holes on the passenger side drain in to the underbody paneling before reaching the ground. Mud builds up and the water does not drain out. Smitty drilled two 9/16 holes clear through to the ground, cut ½" steel conduit to fit and welded at the top. The water would then drain to the ground as does the driver's side holes.

Transaxle Cover: If you want to be able to regularly remove the cover over the transaxle to have instant access to starter, differential vent and filler or just want to watch your axles turn, you will first need to remove the two nuts holding the heater plenum – the plenum is secured to studs protruding from the cover downward. Not real easy, but you can remove the nuts, remove the cover and fabricate a support for the heater before re-installing the cover.

Heating & Defrost: FC air flow can be helped significantly by adding a high speed blower, separate ground to the heater box to keep the voltage up, and a relay that directs battery current straight to the blower motor during high speed operation (eliminating voltage drops through all the wire runs, connectors and the switch). See the CORSA tech guide for details, Electrical page 20. Thanks to Larry Claypool decades ago..

Seat Adjuster: The seat adjuster may become very difficult to utilize, but the solution in most cases is very simple: lubrication. You may think the latch is bad, wire is stretched etc., when all you need is a can of spray grease and about two minutes. A little lube and a few trips back and forth it should be like new.

Rusted Brake Lines: Although all steel lines are subject to failure, the two places that I have seen fail the most frequent here in the Midwest are at the ninety degree bend under the cargo area, forward on the left side, and anywhere the steel lines are snapped into clips. As with all aging vehicles, if it is old stuff, perform the stomp test in your driveway periodically.

Manual Transmission Popping Out Of Gear: Due to the long involved shifter and the movement of the engine/transaxle on the mounts, early manual transmission FC vehicles would pop out of gear, usually fourth, but sometimes other gears. GM added a bracket with a bolt & nut just to the rear and above the shift coupler on the cross mount that limits the movement (to the front) of the powertrain. I have seen more than one design, and some may have been fabricated in the field. You may also find two, on either side lined up with the transmission mounts.

Cracks in Rear Spring Seats: Although I have never seen an actual major failure, I have found large cracks in the rear spring seats on Rampsides (other FC vehicles may have them but I have not found any so far). With the spring removed there is room to weld the cracks successfully without further issues.

Brake Hoses Rubbing on Front Tires: Anytime you do a front brake job (which should include replacing original hoses) be sure and check the hoses when the vehicle is on the ground and turned from lock to lock. You may find that a hose needs to have a twist added by loosening the top fitting and rotating it to prevent interference with the tire. I have found an occasional spring has been added to prevent rubbing but you should be able to correct a problem by adding the correct twist.

Mid-Winter Tech Session: Saturday, January 21, 2023
4:00 – Dinner to Follow
16001 Oakland Ave, Belton, MO

The tech topic will include the explanation of some common Corvair electrical mysteries combined with the use of test meters. Bring your own meter or I have a selection available. In addition, I will have some cutaway parts to help explain some maintenance operations.

When feeding time arrives (approximately 5:30) Sandy will provide soup and stew with tableware, soda, coffee and adult beverage. Please bring something to compliment dinner such as veggies, chips, fruit, or bread. Homemade cookies provided.

Bring a chair to be comfortable and spouses are encouraged to attend; there will be an upstairs version.

Please RSVP to insure food and beverage supply, and so that I could contact you if we would need to cancel due to weather.

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

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 grove 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
\$110 exchange
for a rebuildable
core

Rebuilt Corvair
starters with
solenoid \$105
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

OUR 50TH ANNIV – 2023

Thanks to the support of 1,000's of Corvair owners over the last 50 years we continue to grow and reproduce more parts every year. Have a great year and enjoy our monthly sales and specials all year-Joan & Cal Clark

SPECIAL SALES EVERY MONTH- each month we'll send an email (if you have signed up) and list in a sale section on our Home page www.corvair.com

FREE 50th MEMENTO gifts with your first order in 2023

LIST YOUR CORVAIR FOR SALE- NO CHARGE- sell your Corvair or a spare you just don't have time for! For all of 2023 we will list it on our website at **NO CHARGE-** check website (Corvairs For Sale)

CLARK CAR SHOW & PARTS SALES- See our 2023 supplement or website for more details. We expect around 130 cars, and will offer tours of our buildings including the Upholstery Dept. Slide show by Cal. Parts on sale! **SEPT 16, 2023 - rain or shine**

2023 SUPPLEMENT- On our website or as a hard copy -many new repros & updates.

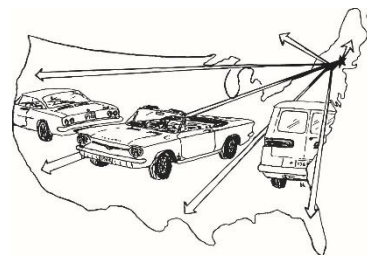
INTERNATIONAL CORSA CONVENTION -Wisconsin- We will be there Tues, Wed & Thurs with lots of recent repros on display. Stop by and say hello. Convention dates June 19 - June 24

CATALOG- over 450 pages, free with an order, \$8 postpaid in USA

Clark's Corvair Parts
400 Mohawk Trail
Shelburne Falls, MA
01370

413-625-9776

www.corvair.com



Classifieds, continued

Want to Borrow:

Dominique Allen is doing some body work on his coupe and would like to borrow a soda blaster if anybody has one available. Contact him at 816-668-3847.

'64 Convertible for sale

A gentleman named Harris Tate is in the process of selling his elderly relative's '64 Monza convertible. It does not appear to have the original engine (110hp?) and the brakes could use some work but it has been repainted at some point. In the past 10 years, it has mainly been driven for short distances to shows in the Topeka area. The car will come with the original engine as well. He's not certain of what price so is entertaining offers. Photos can be found here:

<https://u.pcloud.link/publink/show?code=kZrzEmVZc11SWoC4q4RomoBmTIH0vhoc20vX>

<https://u.pcloud.link/publink/show?code=kZoFvLVZfl3ytNBjRwJ5HdDoNiacHQ4aqjgX>

Youtube video of it running: <https://youtu.be/l1pGthTSHAU>

Harris Tate 785-330-9781

102 Engine for sale

Freshly rebuilt 102 engine if anyone is looking for one (can be brought to events such as the Roundup). The heads were redone with new valves and pistons. Asking \$2500.00 (can provide pictures). Contact: Ray Morales.

For Sale: 1965 Corvair Monza Convertible 110 HP/PG

Bill Bicknell, of Rolla, Missouri, has a '65 convertible for sale. New items include: gas tank and sending unit, shift cable (Powerglide), parking brake cable, alternator, and a rebuilt fuel pump. It is rust free but the top is weathered and the rear window needs to be replaced. He also has many extra parts and a car cover. He says to make an offer. 970-218-1352 (call or text).



Classifieds, continued

Parts for Sale

Bob Shellhorn has some parts he would like to sell, including:

3 - 14" 2 bar spinner Corvair wire spoked hubcaps - \$25 each

1 - 13" 2 bar spinner Corvair wire spoked hubcap - \$25

8 - 13" stainless steel LM Corvair hubcaps, most with plastic center caps but of poor condition, \$15 each

3 - LM dash instrument panel with most gauges

chrome trim handles, lots of misc. engine components, carb. bodies, etc.

No blocks, intakes, drive train, or body sheetmetal.

Contact Bob Shellhorn, at Bshell46@sbcglobal.net

Parts in Arkansas

Clyde Jones passed away about 3 years ago and his wife Dee Jones is needing to find homes for his many Corvair parts. She is in Harrison, Arkansas. Talk to Gary Jones, Jerry Pentzer, or John Miller for a rundown on what's available; I've heard these folks have visited and have an idea of what she has. Please talk to one of the individuals mentioned before you call her as she has no idea what's there but you may call her to schedule a time to visit at 417-693-2323. Please do not share Dee's number with anyone outside of the Corvair club.

For Sale : 1964 Corvair Spyder Coupe \$22,500

Purchased Fall 2015, the engine and body work were completed Summer 2018.

Suspension, brake, and interior work were done through 2020.

It has a '63 transmission with short throw shifter, '64 differential and the 180 HP engine from '66.

The odometer showed 51,200 at purchase and I have put 10,000 miles on it in the 3 1/2 years since the rebuild, both in town and on the highway. Maintained summer / winter oil changes and drained and refilled the transmission and differential Nov 2021.

Aside from the attached work summary, additional work includes rebuilt starter and battery / new back up switch / new bi-metal thermostats replacing bellows system / new headlamps.

I kept a ledger and receipts for work done along with photos available to any interested. This is a car that can go anywhere at any time. Please feel free to call or email with any questions.

Dan Hardin

dustdevil.dan@gmail.com

816-547-0410

Classifieds, continued



Wilson Liter has the following for sale:

- 140HP engine (code T0223RN). Engine turns over but has not been apart: \$400

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

Other Events and Tidbits

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL ANNUAL DUES

It's that time of year again! It's time to start thinking toward the new year, and time to dig deep into your wallet and pull out the \$15 or check to send in for renewal of your membership in the Heart of America Corvair Owners Association Club. Club dues should be in by the end of January, but can be sent in earlier (and we'd love it if you could renew early to help with paperwork).

We don't take your membership in the Club for granted, and are deeply appreciative of the support every member provides in being able to keep the Corvair out in front of the public to enjoy. So, thank you all for all you do, and now go get that checkbook and renew today! Don't wait!

To help our Treasurer, Mr Mike Dawson and Cindy Anders manage the books effectively, we ask that everyone please send their dues renewal check in no later than the end of January, 2023 to the following address: Mike Dawson, 16001 Oakland Ave, Belton, MO 64012. Or, Cindy Anders will be the new treasurer starting in January and your dues will need to be paid to her at that time. Her address is 202 Manor Drive Belton, MO 64012. You can always pay in person at the January meeting to Cindy. We'd like to close the books on the 2023 Membership Drive by the end of January, and your support in the meeting of that goal would be greatly appreciated.

When you are paying your next year's dues please update any information that needs to be corrected in the club roster. Check the roster information to make sure that your home address, email address, cars, cell phone number, as well as your home phone number are correct.

***** A reminder to update your CORSA membership and are strongly encouraged to support the national organization, which works to support our local effects through an event liability insurance policy, advertising of events in the national publications, and inclusion in online tech sessions and Zoom meetings.

Kansas Classics Help

The passage of Kansas bill 2594 could provide help to classic car folks like us. Initially passed by the House, it went to the Senate and eventually governor Kelly.

Kansas bill would end seizure, scrap of some vintage vehicles

In 2016, Richard Martinez of Kansas bought a restored 1959 Chevrolet Corvette for \$50,000 from an Indiana car dealer. When the Kansas Highway Patrol conducted a mandatory registration inspection of the Corvette once under Martinez's ownership, it found the VIN was "defective." Under current Kansas law, cars with defective VINS must be seized and destroyed. According to the *Kansas Reflector*, newly introduced Kansas House Bill 2594 would make exceptions for owners of vintage vehicle who aren't aware the vehicle was stolen, as was the case in Martinez's situation.

Existing Kansas law prevented Martinez from returning the Corvette to the Indiana dealership.

The bill comes after Martinez filed a lawsuit in the Johnson County District Court to halt the seizure and destruction of the Corvette.

On Feb. 21, the Kansas house approved a bill that would amend the current state law regarding defective VINs on antique vehicles; it would work around the statute that states a vehicle with a "destroyed, removed, altered or defaced" VIN must be seized and scrapped.

At press time, House Bill 2594 was still being deliberated to ensure that innocent parties are not penalized by seizure but nefarious VIN changes are not tolerated. **OC**

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

January	
Name	Date
Don Cory	2
Kristine Rutherford	9
Richard Bruner	12
Helen Moore	12
Kim Mellies	20