

# Heart of America Corvair Owners Association

# VairCor



June 2023

Volume 59-6



## In this issue

Calendar of events....	4
President's message...	4
Preventive	
Maintenance series....	6
Classifieds.....	8
Other events and	
tidbits.....	9

## May Meeting/Auction

Since May is our auction, we did not have an official meeting. We just spent the time bidding, talking, laughing, and hanging out!











## **HACOA Calendar at a glance**

Date	Event
Tuesday, June 13	Annual meeting in the park, Sar-Ko-Par Trails Park, Lenexa, KS
June 19-24	CORSA International Convention, Wisconsin Dells, WI
Tuesday, July 11	Monthly meeting, Paul and Jack's Tavern, North Kansas City, MO

## **President's Tapping**

### **President's Tapping, June 2023**

With the weather beginning to turn in the "car show" direction I hope that everyone is doing well. I had both of my cars out on the road on May 14<sup>th</sup> to celebrate the anniversary of the last Corvair rolling off of the assembly line. I'm looking forward to hearing your May 14<sup>th</sup> stories at the June meeting.

I'm saddened to report that Cliff Carlino's father, Frank Carlino, passed on May 8, 2023. There are no services being planned as mentioned at the meeting. Please keep Cliff, Sheila, and the Carlino family in your thoughts and prayers.

Thank you to all that donated items and bid on the same for the HACOA Charity Auction again this year. It was another great year and I'll allow our Secretary to report the final tally, you all should feel proud! Baked goods (donated by Barb Wagner, Wilma Cory, and Marcia Bolton just to name a few), an original art piece (donated by Kevin & Ada Koch), a weighted blanket (donated by Helen Moore), two cordless power tool sets (donated by Bill Bennett), OEM alternator (donated by Mike Dawson), a car dolly (donated by Don Barta), and labor on seat recovering and top installation, (donated by Taylor West, owner of TKM Upholstery) were the hot items this year. It was a full house. We held the event in our normal meeting space due to the weather but that didn't slow this group down a bit.

At the last meeting a new member approached me about name tags. Thank you Joan Fuller for the inquiry, it's great that you asked. It's been a few years since we last ordered name tags but Mike Dawson was able to confirm with the vendor we utilized that they still have our design on file and can produce name tags upon request. Thank you Mike! They are \$16 each (\$14.75+9.1% sales tax) for a 2" by 3" White Glossy Sublimation Nametag with a magnetic back. There are a few of us in Belton that could request/retrieve them on your behalf or you are more than welcome to visit Dean's Trophies, T-shirts & Awards at 17141 Bel Ray Place, Belton, MO 64012 yourself. Be sure to ask me about the Item # to aid in their review of our previous design. I hope we've shown that if you don't ask you don't know so if anyone ever has any question about "your" club please do not hesitate to let me know and we can find the answer.

I made a cameo appearance at the Dawson Tech Session on the 20<sup>th</sup>, on my way out of town, and even arriving early Mike Dawson was already elbows deep in work. Thank you Mike and to everyone that was able to make it to the event and help out, learn something new, and/or complete that task that has been on your mind. I'm excited to hear the full report at the June meeting. Speaking of the June meeting, **please remember that in June we meet at SAR-KO-PAR Trails, the times do not change.**

There are many other events as the weather is getting nicer; June 3rd offers the Dust Off hosted by Linda Mellies, the MCCA June Tuna, and the American Legion Car Show. Then on June 4<sup>th</sup> is the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual King of Kings Car Show followed by additional car shows nearly every weekend afterwards. The CORSA National Convention kicks off on June 19<sup>th</sup> and lasts through June 24<sup>th</sup> at the Wisconsin Dells preceded by the SpeedTour event at the Indianapolis Speedway June 15<sup>th</sup> through the 17<sup>th</sup>.

Linda Mellies asked me to remind everyone that you may bring a side or dessert to share and a chair if you wish to sit



---

roadside with the car display. I'm hearing news of a special guest appearance this year that I'm excited to witness, you'll have to be there yourself to find out who it is. As was done last year, please park your cars in the yards adjacent the street with early models in front of Linda's home and late models in front of Wes's home as spaces permit. You never know if a tech session will break out and Wes has assured me that he is prepared. We have 4 nominations for the Mellie's Cup this year so come to find out who takes the trophy home...it could be you!

We are pending the registration form for the 2023 GPCR while the registration for the 2023 CORSA National Convention is now available. Please check out the CORSA website and your Communique for details.

Keep an eye and ear out for an impromptu "insulation installation gathering" in the near future. Once the hosts are prepared we will reach out for a few good hands to aid in laying batting into the ceiling of a new Corvair Shrine & Service Facility. Okay, it's a member's new garage but doesn't sound like more fun?

Just a reminder that August is coming up fast so please reach out if you would like to put a car into the Kansas City Automotive Museum and need some hands to get it ready for the event.

Fun note: I found the latest issue, May-June 2023, of the Haggerty Drivers Club magazine especially entertaining. With me preparing for a 1,400 road trip in June it was great that a majority of the issue centered on the music that has lead us through the years with our cars. Call it a glitch in the matrix if you will. The articles provided some great insight to my own media gathering.

Be safe and take care of each other and yourself.

Vairy Best, Scott

---

In other news, attached below is a picture from the Ellie Hammett and Andrew Duckworth wedding venue with member Keith Hammett's 65 110 PG Convertible parked in front of the reception space. The car was photographed many times throughout the day occupied by the bride and groom. As a special wedding gift, Keith encouraged Andrew to move the car from the front of the building to the scenic yard for some of the pictures. First time for him behind the wheel and with coaching from Ellie everything went flawlessly. It was a great day and an absolutely beautiful ceremony. Also attached is a picture of the beautiful bride and the proud parents.



---

## THE PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE SERIES

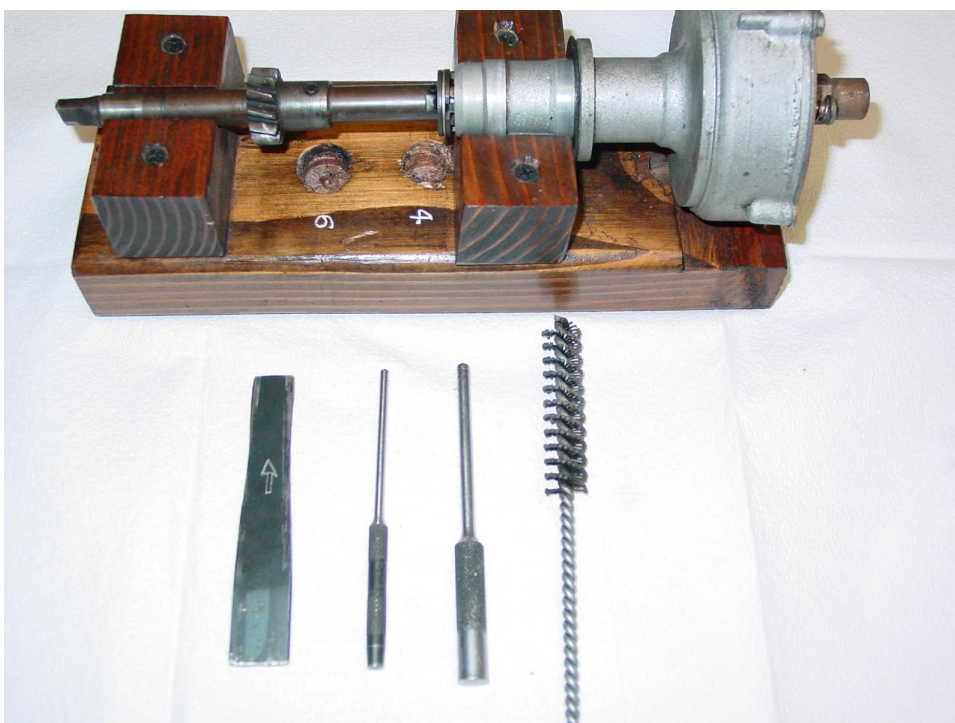
Mike Dawson

### Distributor Bushing Replacement (GM Only Supplied The Housing With Bushing Installed)

Many Corvair distributors go a lifetime needing only minor maintenance and sometimes breaker plate replacement. It has one upper bushing and the lower end of the shaft acts as a bearing within the rear housing, keeping the shaft running quite true. Two checks of the bushing while in the car would be to look at side play by trying to move the distributor cam across the shaft. If you note side play, be sure it is not between the cam and the shaft, which can wear if not lubricated. Another indication of a worn bushing is a small (or large) puddle of oil visible in the low part of the housing when you remove the breaker plate. Note: if you remove the distributor, it will appear to have bushing play if you move the bottom of the shaft against the bushing, so check it while installed. The up and down play (0.050) against the three piece thrust washer is also normal to allow the assembly to have running clearance with different housings and oil pumps.

If you determine you need a bushing, or are doing a complete distributor recondition, the following tips on bushing replacement may help.

Tools you will need include the following: #4 and #6 roll pin punches, a homemade tool for pushing out the old bushing, and a hone to size the new bushing as all bushings that I have purchased recently are slightly oversize (which is good). My pusher is a piece of 1/8" x 3/4" steel stock trimmed to fit between the ribs that surround the bushing. Also pictured is a homemade holding fixture for removing and installing pins, for which you can substitute a padded vice.



Pictured below is the minimum disassembly necessary to replace the bushing in a '62-'69 ('60-'61 will be similar). This would obviously be the time to also check and lube the advance mechanism.



File off any sharp edges at the two pinholes and polish the shaft before fitting the bushing. During reassembly remember the divet on the gear must align with the direction of the rotor notch.



## 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](mailto: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 Corvair  
starters with  
solenoid \$105  
exchange



Rebuilt harmonic  
balancer  
\$110 exchange  
for a rebuildable  
core



Mike Dawson  
[mdawson1961@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mdawson1961@sbcglobal.net)  
816-322-4057

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





**AMSOIL**

*The First in Synthetics*

Since 1972



**KEN RAGAN**  
LIFETIME AMSOIL DEALERS

Ragan Enterprises  
212 Warner  
Bonner Springs, KS 66012-1134  
(913) 422-5778  
E-mail [kenrragan@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kenrragan@sbcglobal.net)

## 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](mailto:Bshell46@sbcglobal.net)



---

## **Classifieds, continued**

1963 Corvair/Clam Digger dune buggy for sale. All Corvair running gear and suspension, including 1965 140 HP engine with centermount carburetor, dual point distributor, and electric fuel pump. Running gear includes a '64 4-speed transaxle with transverse spring and new 13 inch tires. Needs some wiring work. Asking \$3,500. Contact Dick Berger 678-650-4246.

---

## **Other Events and Tidbits**

### **Ashes to Ashes**

Here's a throwback from 1988. Mike and Sandy Dawson attended the CORSA International Convention in Asheville, North Carolina. As Mike said, "One of the benefits of Corvair ownership is being able to find your car in large parking areas." So true!



## Northwest Missouri Street Rods Spring Tour

Several Corvair folks took part in the Northwest Missouri Street Rods Spring Tour.





---

## St Joseph Apple Blossom Parade

I was contacted to supply 3 convertibles to carry the royalty of the parade, which took place on May 6. The process of elimination came down to: NWMSR member, Ian Langner who carried the queen, in his yellow 1965 Pontiac GTO. Next was my brother Don Griswold, Jr. with the teen princess, in his pretty blue 1967 Chevrolet Camaro. Then, Nathan drove "Blaze," the 1964 Corvair Monza and I rode shotgun. Since we were carrying the queen and princesses, we were in the lead, only after the color guard and mayor.

The route started at Frederick Ave and Noyes Boulevard. It took almost one hour to throw out candy and wave to thousands of spectators. Our little eight year old princess, Keara, kept true with her "real princess" wave. Many parade-goers called out how beautiful she was, and she always thanked them and with a continuous bright smile. Several times we heard mothers encouraging their little girls: "See, you can be a princess like her someday."

The parade has been a tradition for 99 years. I remember Hop-along Cassidy in all black and his black horse with its ornate black and silver saddle. I may have been about 6? I also remember noting that the majorettes' thighs jiggled when they stomped by in their short silky skirts.

We were honored to be asked to participate as VIPs and enjoyed the whole experience.

Kat King



---

## Working Tech Session, May 20, 2023

Even with competition from (grandchildren's) graduations and sporting events plus a wedding, we still had 23 Corvair folks turn out for the tech session on May 20. Three non-members dropped by and we hope they keep coming back; Matt Olson with a '63 Monza Cpe, Ryan Edwards with an early model coupe under restoration and Mark Boase with a Corvair powered dune buggy.

---

Work projects include Floyd Becker who was checking for oil leaks when his car died and failed to restart. Investigating the usual suspects turned up two part issues; it was just a matter of time before they both would have failed. Floyd had an original 50 year old AC fuel pump with a deep pocket push rod. Cranking the engine with the inlet line off provided no vacuum; a replacement pushrod got the antique pump back in service. The second issue was a failed capacitor in the distributor. Hooked up to a Sun Condenser Tester, the capacitor showed an open in the circuit and very low mf capacitance. With the engine back in service, Floyd proceeded to remove and replace his front bumper, eliminating some rattles caused by loose bolts.

Brad Stauffer was chasing oil leaks and blowby in his late model 140, and after determining that some visible blowby was coming from a strange place he removed the alternator adapter to find the gasket had been improperly installed. The remaining excess blowby appeared to be caused by ring problems as you could hear a puffing sound by listening to the oil filler tube. One other service Brad performed was replacement of the rear motor mount which had separated and dropped down onto the pin. It turned out that the mufflers had been installed with the failed mount in place, causing a muffler to hit the body with an alarming noise once the new mount was positioned which raised the engine. An adjustment was completed.

Cindy Anders arrived with an inoperative fuel gauge and after some testing it was determined that the float had filled with gas. Cindy monitored the gas removal operation leading up to replacement of the offending part. Cindy also needed the speedometer head bushing lightly lubed and there was discussion that the cable/casing assembly was original and probably due for replacement.

Fred Bybee's '69 was checked for hot restarting (too nice of a day) and his horn assembly received some replacement parts and adjustment in the hopes that it will not go off in the middle of the night again.

Long distance awards go to Terry Kalp and Marcus Trotter (President of MCCA), both traveled up from Wichita to spend the day.

A special THANKS to Bill Bennett who served as Master Chef, lighting the grill at 4:00 and filling the plates with virtually perfect burgers, dogs and brats to accompany the side dishes that had arrived.

Other HACOIA members socializing and pitching in to help were Scott Allison (on his way to the Hammett wedding), Dwight Hamby, Gary Jones, Chuck Morris (sporting a knee brace), Dick Berger, Chris Green, Kevin Rafferty, Paul Sergeant, and Linda Reece. Ladies and family members included Sharon Bybee, Dorothy Morris, Sheila Rafferty and Sandy Reece.

Thanks to all for a fun event!

Mike & Sandy Dawson

(Photos below)



















---

## Music to Her Ears

I know we can all appreciate finding clever ways to make things happen when working on our Corvairs. Cindy Anders did some work on her convertible at the tech session but she also needed to reinstall her radio. After finding the right position (photo courtesy of her daughter), she was able to put it back together and enjoy some tunes again for Memorial Day weekend!





JOHNNY'S TAVERN RAYMORE

# COFFEE & CARS

◆ JUNE 10TH 2023 8AM - NOON

◆ 716 W. FOXWOOD DRIVE  
RAYMORE, MO 64083

BREAKFAST  
BAR  
\$20



PROCEEDS BENEFITTING  
RAYPEC & BELTON  
EDUCATION  
FOUNDATION!

PROUDLY PARTNERING  
WITH

★ Silent Auction  
★ Raffles ★ Car Competition



CAN'T MAKE IT  
BUT  
WANT TO DONATE?





# — VINTAGE — CAR & BIKE SHOW



*Timeline of Transportation*

benefiting the Jackson County Historical Society



Car Show Will Be Held

**7AM - 1PM**

**\$20  
ENTRY  
FEE**

June **11** 2023

**FREE  
TO  
ATTEND**

INDEPENDENCE SQUARE  
INDEPENDENCE MO

[WWW.JCHS.ORG](http://WWW.JCHS.ORG)

CONTACT - CHRISTIAN M. SHUSTER- 816.509.4003

## NWMSR Special Midweek Cruise-in

On Wednesday, June 14, join the Northwest Missouri Street Rods for a special midweek cruise-in to welcome the Buick Rod and Custom Association. It will take place from 6:30 to 8:00 PM at East Ridge Village, 3800 Frederick Avenue, St. Joseph, Missouri. This is an all makes event, so Corvairs are definitely welcome! Any questions, contact Kat King.

## 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)  
<<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

June	
Name	Date
Johnny Rider	3
Corly Allen	6
Erin Curtis	16
Jerry Pentzer	17
John Martin	19
Wilson Liter	20
Marcia Bolton	24
Cliff Carlino	26
Kay Conway	26
Jerry Lentz	26
John Biaggi	27