

Heart of America Corvair Owners Association

VairCor



December 2023

Volume 59-12



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November Meeting

On November 14, our HACO family gathered for another memorable meeting under the guidance of President Scott Allison. The meeting commenced with a moment of silence dedicated to Sharon Bybee.

Here's a recap of the key highlights from our recent gathering:

1. Member Updates

- Donnie Hill: We're delighted to hear that Donnie is doing well with radiation.
- Kevin Koch: Currently in California, enjoying quality time with his grandkids.

2. Visitors and New Members

- Guests: Welcome to Jeff & Jean Manning!
- New Members:
 - *Matthew and Deanna Harper*: Despite their absence, we extend a warm welcome as they explore late-model Corvairs.
 - *Eric Jaynes*: Present at the meeting, owner of an early convertible previously owned by Don Barta.
 - *John & Sue Weisensee*: Here tonight, owners of a '66...(Details pending!)

Continued on page 3

HACOA Calendar at a glance

Date	Event
Tuesday, January 9	Monthly meeting, Paul and Jack's Tavern, North Kansas City, MO
Saturday, January 20	Mid-Winter Tech Session, Dawson residence, Belton, MO
Tuesday, February 13	Monthly meeting, Paul and Jack's Tavern, North Kansas City, MO

President's Tapping

President's Tapping, December 2023

This will be my last entry for a while as my term as President has come to an end. I truly appreciate the members of HACOA allowing me to serve as President for 2022 and 2023. This group is made of the best life has to offer for people and I thank you for allowing me to be a part of such a great group. I leave you in good hands with Kat King and look forward to what 2024 has to offer for HACOA.

The 2024 Elections took place at the November General meeting. There were no nominations from the floor therefore the selections suggested by our nominating committee are to take office December 1, 2023. The new officers are:

Kat King – President
 Larry Roberts – Vice President
 Paula Roberts – Paula Roberts
 Cindy Anders – Treasurer
 Dwight Hamby – Board of Directors
 Adam Fisher – Board of Directors
 Floyd Becker – Board of Directors
 Scott Allison – Ex Officio

I want to thank the Nominating Committee, consisting of Don Wagner, Mike Dawson, Adam Fisher, Dwight Hamby, and Taylor West, for their efforts in filling the ballot with an excellent group of individuals to take the club into 2024. I'm very excited to see so many new names on the HACOA Board of Directors!

The hotel for the Great Plains Corvair Roundup in Wichita, Kansas (Red Roof Inn, 6815 W. Kellogg Dr.) and the hotel for the CORSA National Convention in Dayton, Ohio (Marriott at the University of Dayton, 1414 South Patterson Blvd.) are both taking reservations for the associated events. Make your reservations early before the venues sell out.

Be thinking of how you believe the club should celebrate its 60th Incorporation Anniversary in April of 2024. The board would like to hear your suggestions.

I hope that everyone had a joyful Thanksgiving with family and friends and that all travel plans brought you back home safely. I'm looking forward to the splendid affair that Paula Roberts has put together for our annual HACOA Christmas Party at Trezo Mare. Thank you Paula for your efforts in bringing the group together for what is ultimately to be a beautiful evening of fun and friends.

Please keep all of our Corvair Family in your thoughts and prayers throughout the holiday season. I pray for miracle cures and healing hands for those struggling in any way. The loss of Sharon Bybee this past month will be felt by all of us and I pray for Fred and the siblings during this time of adjustment. As a club we have experienced losses this year that cannot be replaced while we have some members that we have not personally seen due to unforeseen circumstances. No one is forgotten and know that we are thinking of you. I am extremely grateful for the time I am

blessed with to share with everyone in our Corvair Family.

I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and look forward to seeing you in 2024!

Be safe and take care of each other and yourself.

Vairy Best, Scott

November Meeting, continued from page 1

3. Club Anniversaries and Car News

- Gary Moore reminded us that HACOIA just turned another year older. Our 60th-anniversary celebration is on the horizon in April.
- Eva McGuire shared a historical nugget on the last Corvair convertible produced in 1969, now for sale at \$50,000.
- Hot Rod Magazine's use of a '65-'66 Corsa dash for a Nova caught our attention.
- Haggerty News featured the song "Corvair Baby" in their "Songs to Drive By."

4. Committee Reports

- Membership: Don Wagner emphasized the importance of updating information and filling out new forms with dues.
- Newsletter: Kudos to Chris & Meghan Green for their outstanding efforts!
- Social Chair: Paula Roberts provided updates on recent events and upcoming gatherings, including the Christmas Party on December 1st.

5. Nominating Committee and Christmas Party Update

- The Nominating Committee presented the slate of officers for the upcoming term, all accepted by acclamation.
- President: Kat King
- Vice-president: Larry Roberts (incumbent)
- Secretary: Paula Roberts
- Treasurer: Cindy Anders (incumbent)
- Board Members: Floyd Becker, Adam Fisher, and Dwight Hamby
- Paula Roberts shared a Christmas Party update, highlighting the full capacity and a waiting list. Attendees were briefed on the Gift Exchange rules.

6. Old Business and New Business

- President Scott clarified quorum-related queries following the October vote on electronic payment methods.

- A new project for the Corvair Preservation Foundation National Corvair Museum was discussed, with Scott and Travis expressing their willingness to participate.

Save the Date

- CORSA Meetup on November 16th: Don't miss an insightful discussion by Carl Jones, Development Director for the Corvair Preservation Foundation National Corvair Museum.

As we wrap up the year, let's cherish the camaraderie within HACO. Wishing you all a joyful holiday season and looking forward to exciting adventures in 2024!



The Preventive Maintenance Series

Mike Dawson

Pilot Bushings

Mike Dawson

If you own a manual transmission Corvair of any model and drive it long enough you will probably encounter the screeching sound emitted from a failing pilot bushing when using the clutch pedal. A brief explanation:

In the Corvair powertrain configuration the torque from the engine travels (via the clutch shaft) from the crankshaft through the differential and through the transmission to the transmission clutch gear, a length ranging from 21 3/4" to 24 3/8", depending on year and transmission. This shaft is supported by the pilot bushing in the crankshaft gear on one end and the clutch gear at the front of the transmission on the other end. According to GM, the shaft is flexible torsionally which eliminates the need for damper springs in the clutch disc, and the disc is kept centered on the flywheel by the bushing. The pilot bushing is only in use when the clutch is being operated (A noise while barely depressing the pedal would be a release bearing noise, not a pilot bushing). The original GM bushing was an Oilite type bushing, it was porous, contained powdered bronze, lubricant, and formed under pressure. The following is a website definition of an Oilite bushing:

Traditional Oilite is mostly made of copper with approximately 10% tin and up to 1% iron, while both Super Oilite and Super Oilite 16 are primarily made of iron with about 20% copper and, in the case of the latter, up to 1% graphite. Oilite is currently a registered trademark of Beemer Precision, Inc.

The picture below compares the bushings that I am currently aware of.



From left to right:

- ☐ The original GM sintered bronze bushing was discontinued some time ago.
- ☐ Clark's has reproduced the sintered bronze bushing but it appears it is without the Oilite lubrication and should be pressure oiled between two fingers to force oil into the porous material. The recommendation is 30 wt mineral oil.

-
- ☐ The Dorman bushing for Corvairs is almost identical to the original but needs a deeper chamfer to facilitate installation of the clutch shaft during assembly of the powertrain. Dorman no longer lists the part number but it is still available re-branded at some parts stores.
 - ☐ The larger Dorman (690-034) bushing for GM applications is readily available and can be turned down to the proper outside diameter. The other two dimensions are identical so the bearing area is not affected by machining.
 - ☐ The far right bushing is the Dorman 690-034 that I have had turned down and used in my two manual transmission Corvairs for many years. This bushing has a combination of bronze and iron and is magnetic, bringing criticism on Corvair forums. Dorman tech support states the iron content leads to longer life and has always been used in their bushings. The only damaged shafts I have encountered were from severely worn original bushings that were 60 years old.

The screeching sound from the bushing is the clutch shaft vibrating and trying to gall in the bushing due to lack of lubrication. At this point the only remedy is replacement. **However, there is a driving technique that will extend the life of a new, or an older bushing if it has not yet become audible. The higher the engine speed as you leave a stop, the faster the bushing has to turn on the end of the shaft before the clutch disc is fully engaged, so consider the following:**

It is important that your clutch starts to engage with your pedal as close to the floor as you can adjust it without grinding gears in first or reverse. This is important for good clutch control. As the engagement point rises above the floor your foot has to search for that engagement just a little longer than if it were right off the floor, therefore RPM rises and the pilot bushing suffers.

If you also practice a bit using lower RPM when releasing the clutch you will lessen pilot bushing heat up and wear. A good example is driving parades where lots of clutch use is common. Low RPM engagement not only helps your bushing, it helps avoid jumping action in the parade. Close to the floor adjustment does make parade driving easier.

Probably the worst pilot bushing abuse is holding your car on hills at a stop by slipping the clutch.

One caveat: it is perfectly permissible to occasionally strut your stuff, ripping away from a traffic light in dramatic fashion. The pilot bushing has a few of those designed in!

When replacing a pilot bushing, also check that the clutch shaft is perfectly true, polish the contact area on the shaft, and lube the splines where the disc has to slide.

Mid-Winter Tech Session: Saturday, January 20, 2024
4:00 – Dinner to Follow
16001 Oakland Ave, Belton, MO

The tech topic will include tips on diagnosing and repairing Rochester carburetors plus an explanation of a couple of electrical gremlins. These two topics have been the most popular over the past year. Carburetors will be provided.

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.

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

Sharon Bybee 1943-2023



https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/kansascity/name/sharon-bybee-obituary?id=53645643&utm_source=MarketingC loud&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=iPubPPN_VerificationConfirmation_091323&utm_content=obit-button&sfm c_id=287257543&env=6f038d18e596716ad9510fc50197b905ef3f6ca3be9050f2ef7843486b5a0ecf

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 Corvair starters with solenoid \$130 exchange



Professionally rebuilt Corvair clutch disc on a welded center Borg & Beck core with a thickness of .325" \$65 exchange with same core.



Rebuilt harmonic balancer \$110 exchange for a rebuildable core



Mike Dawson

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





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taylor.west@hotmail.com

816-896-2240

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

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.

Space for rent

Charlie Clark will have a spot available in his shop if anyone needs a place to work on their car. The rate is \$220 per month and is available starting January 1. Call Charlie 913-432-9630

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 are due by the end of January, but can be sent in before then (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, Cindy Anders manage the books effectively, we ask that everyone please send their dues renewal check in no later than the end of January, 2024 to the following address: Mike Dawson, 16001 Oakland Ave, Belton, MO 64012. Or, Cindy Anders will be our treasurer starting again 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 December, and January meetings. 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 No., as well as your home phone No. are correct.

***** A reminder to update your CORSA membership and strongly encourage 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.

What's Happening?

Meanwhile, from warmer days at an Iowa Corvair Club meeting...



To the Christmas parade in Hermitage, Missouri, with Larry Sherwood:



SAVE THE DATE!

RETURN OF THE CORVAIR TRACK CLASSIC

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**SUNDAY MAY 5TH- AREA WIDE CAR SHOW/BENEFIT
JERRY SPADY CHEVROLET**

\$20 ENTRY FEE PROCEEDS TO CMoA CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

**WATCH FOR MORE INFORMATION: EVENTS AT
CORVAIRMUSEUM.ORG or CORVAIRTRACKCLASSIC.COM**

SEE US ON FACEBOOK: CORVAIR TRACK CLASSIC



CORVAIRBORNE!

**2024 INTERNATIONAL
CORVAIR CONVENTION
JULY 21-26**



**MARRIOTT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON
1414 S PATTERSON BLVD - DAYTON, OH 45409**

**MORE INFORMATION ON
WWW.DAYTONCORVAIRCLUB.COM**



2024 Great Plains Corvair Roundup September 27-29

Red Roof Inn Wichita Airport
6815 W. Kellogg Dr. Wichita, KS

Contact Marcus Trotter
316-214-6419 or trotteroil@hotmail.com

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.
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HACOA birthdays

December	
Name	Date
Charles King	2
Phyllis Yost	7
John Weisensee	15
Sandy Reece	18
Howard Gillogly	19
Sheila Carlino	20
Patricia Franklin	23
Melissa Holstrom	26
Denise Reavey	29
Kevin Koch	31