



# THE *Aircooler*

**DETROIT AREA CORVAIR CLUB**

**ESTABLISHED 1974**

**Volume 4, Issue 1**

**50 YEARS AS YOUR CORVAIR CLUB**

**JANUARY 2024**

**From The Dashboard of Your DACC President,  
Pete Cimbala** [Corvairkid1963@lentel.com](mailto:Corvairkid1963@lentel.com);

We had a great time at the Christmas party/meeting thanks to our inhouse party planners Lori, Gary and Kim. Thank you for supporting Haven House with the gifts of toys and money, even the 300 Bowl had a table full of stuff in the bar area. January starts a new season of the driving contest, see the article from Pete K. So take a picture of your odometer or write down that starting number and we will see who wins at the November meeting. The weather has been nice enough in December to drive a Corvaire or other cool car or truck on the dry days. The Garage Squad does not have to fix "my demo" as it has been sold and will now live in the Rockford, IL area with what turned out to be a stuck lifter not the dreaded dropped valve seat I thought was causing the nasty noise. It sure sounded worse than lifter noise and had never even ticked a little on start up prior to the day that it started after driving it on a day that was in the 90's. Rumor has it that the Crocus Cream 60 Monza Coupe that is now in my 24ft. enclosed trailer will be repaired as needed to resume daily activities, or maybe weekly so I can add a few more miles to it next driving season. Remember that our January Meeting will be on the 8th. at the 300 Bowl. Also that week will be the official announcement of the Back to the Bricks 2024 Promo Tour on the 11th.

After we get past January there is a cool event going

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## HAVEN'S HEROES

The largest, best, greatest Corvaire Club in the country hit it out of the park once again. Combined as part of the annual DACC Christmas Holiday Celebration we also help support the needs of HAVEN of Oakland County in their annual drive to make sure that the innocent victims of troubled, abusive, or otherwise unsuitable homes are not forgotten.

Through the generosity of this fine organization the DACC delivered a total of \$1080.00 in cash, checks and gift cards plus an SUV packed full of toys, clothing assorted household items. **Stand up! Take a bow! Pat each other on the back knowing what makes a good club great.**

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all.

John & Judy O'Leary ■

## 2024 DACC Corvaire Driving Contest

By Pete Koehler

New Year. New Rules. This year let's encourage more driving of our Corvairs. There will be a prize of unspeakable value at the conclusion of the contest in October. Will we fill up your gas tank? With gas? Maybe. With jellybeans? Probably not. Perhaps with stale beer left over from the Homecoming? I hope not. But we will do something cool. Here's the plan:

Since everyone has a portable phone... even my pre-historic Flip Phone can do this! Take a picture of your Corvaire on whatever trip you are taking. Home to work? Fine. Enroute to an event? Even better. Cruising to the National Convention in Dayton? Outstanding!! Send it to Adam and he will make you famous in the next Aircooler. If he runs out of room since EVERYONE will want to play this game, you might see a list of links to your pics. This way we can expand the Corvaire experience without having to publish a book every month. And if you opt for the on-line version of our monthly newsletter all of the pics can be viewed in living color. How cool is that?

If your phone can record video (that means everyone else but me) why not take a vid and send it to Adam? These would have to be in link form, and you would have to visit the internet to view them. Corvairs at a Cruise Night all lined up nice and pretty? Corvairs in a parade enroute to an event? For you racers out there how about doing a fast lap at Waterford and keeping out of the tire barriers? The possibilities are limited only by your imagination.

So, let's get those Corvairs up and running and back on the streets. Keep track of the miles and we will have more fun this year. ■

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**Make checks payable to.  
Detroit Area Corvaire Club**

## From the Rear Deck of the DACC VP, Tom Murray

[guitar\\_mechanic@yahoo.com](mailto:guitar_mechanic@yahoo.com)

Hi campers!

Another month has passed and it's time to look at what discerning Corvair owners would have in their emergency road kits. Last month we covered spark plugs so if you missed it, go back, and give it a read. I learned something myself just writing it.

This month we are going to cover fan belts. Yay!! We all have it written down somewhere that the right belt for our car is a 3V560. Great.... What does that actually mean? Let's look. V belts are broken down into classes. The first or "classical" V belt is generally too big and not the right geometry for a Corvair. These belts are more modern replacements for old leather belts in industrial applications. They have a high tolerance to poor working environments, but let's stop there. In this discussion it's enough to simply know they exist.



Constant wedgie and belt doesn't reach bottom of the pulley

The next class is the "narrow" class. These belts are capable of transmitting more power than the classical belt. In this class there are many, many sizes. The one we are going to concentrate on is the "3V". These are the belts that Corvair owners use. There are standard sizes for the belts and the pulleys, just like there are standard sizes for nuts and bolts. A 1/4-20 nut fits a 1/4-20 bolt no matter when or where it's made. So, a 3V belt fits a

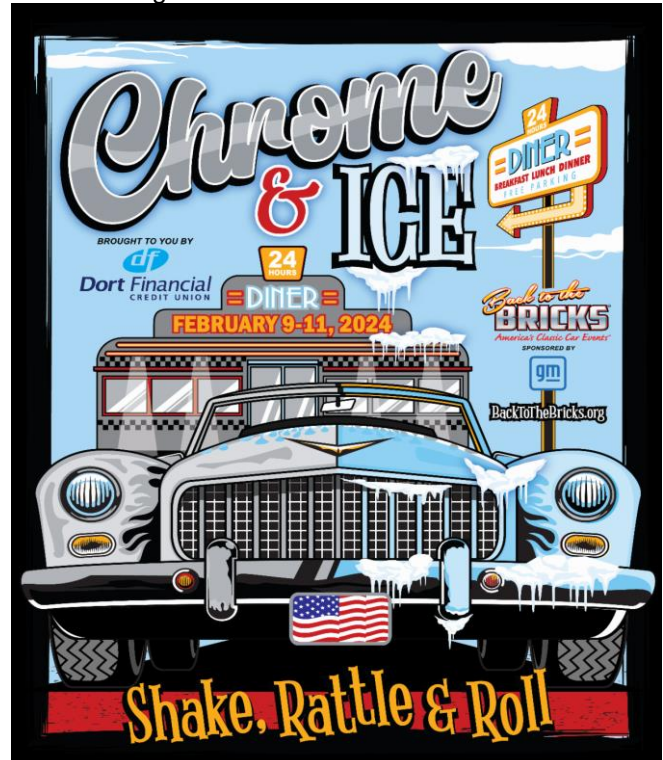
3V pulley no matter when or where it was made. A 3V belt's standard dimensions are 3/8" (.375) wide and roughly 5/16" tall (.32). The way it fits the pulley is flush with the outside diameter of the pulley and interestingly does not reach the inside bottom of the pulley. By design, the belt is giving the pulley a constant wedgie! This wedgie is what keeps the belt in contact with the slanted walls of the pulley and gives it the grip to transfer power.

The length of the narrow format belts is measured along the outside of the belt. If we ran a string through all of the pulleys and measured it, we would end up with a belt that is too short. I wish I would have known that when I was a kid trying to build a go cart. I wasted a lot of money buying the wrong size belts. So, after all of that, a Corvair belt is a 3V that is 56" long around its outside. I've read that the extra zero is the length in inches X 10. So, a 3V560 is the right one. Whew!! I know what you're thinking, "okay mister smarty pants, where do I get these mythical belts?" The good news is that they are pretty common. Yes, you can order them from Clark's, it's hard to go wrong there. They have done the leg work to find or make the product they sell. Our Corvair emergency kit, however, could use a belt that's more pedestrian, as we're just using it to get us home. They can be ordered from McMaster Carr, Grainger, or any number of industrial power transfer companies online.

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## President's report continued from page 1

on that may have a Corvair in it. The 9th. annual Chrome and Ice Indoor Car Show will take place Feb 9-11 with the VIP Experience on Friday the 9th. at the Dort Financial Center. This year's theme is Shake, Rattle and Roll a tribute to the 50's and a featured display of GTO's plus a swap meet, craft show, entertainment, panel discussions, and vendor exhibits. More next month or go to [Backtothebricks.org](http://Backtothebricks.org) for more info including a detailed schedule.



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### DACC OFFICERS

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Webmaster	John Allesee



VP article continued from page 2

Additionally, they can be sourced locally from a good hardware store like "Frentz and son" in Royal Oak or from a riding mower repair shop. They might even be available as a replacement garage door part. I checked Tractor Supply and apparently farm equipment doesn't use 3V belts. You get the picture.

A word on usage, a Corvair belt should be adjusted when the engine is cold and should just allow the generator or alternator fan to be slipped with pressure from your thumb. That's all good, but on the side of the road, I tend to be a little less technical.

Let's say your belt flies off for some reason, don't be tempted to put it back on, even if it looks okay. For the belt to have stretched out far enough to come off, the internal cord structure of the belt will have been damaged. It will need to be replaced.

The companion to your emergency belt will be your trusty 9/16" wrench. If you have swapped out your idler pulley nuts with the couplers for all-thread rod, you would use a 1/2" wrench. This is a mod that I would suggest because it puts the hex out farther for easier engagement with the wrench.



This is how the belt and pulley are designed to fit



This is the mod using the threaded couplers for all-thread rod with a 1/2" wrench.

That's all for now. Happy motoring!!  
Tom. ■



More Christmas Party pics in the online Aircooler.

## DACC December 2023 Meeting Minutes

We had 45 people in attendance for the DACC Christmas party and we had 3 Corvairs there as well.

The treasury report shows that we have \$8567.67 in the account. This amount is before Haven House donation, Christmas cake and calendar payments.

The membership report shows 149 paid members. There are 3 members owing dues before the end of the year or they will be dropped. Please see the Membership report for details. There were no new members in attendance tonight.

DACC made a \$500 donation to Haven House. Items were collected from attendees for Haven House as well. Also, the staff from the 300 Bowl had additional donation items.

The Christmas party went well, everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. The Dice game was played, Lori made Corvair ornaments for everyone, and we all had cake. The January 2024 DACC meeting will be held Monday January 8<sup>th</sup> due to the first Monday of January being the January 1<sup>st</sup> holiday.

Homecoming update – Lori noted that the contract with the hotel has been signed for the 2024 Homecoming. She reminded us that there will be 2 seating groups for pizza dinner. The eating order will be based upon registration order. So, register sooner and you can eat pizza sooner! Adam requested articles for the Aircooler.

John Allesee noted that his mother had recently passed away. She was involved with Corvairs and had been a part of the 1979 convention. Our thoughts are with John and Karen.

The 50/50 drawing drew in \$185 total, John Allesee won the \$92. John then donated to Haven House from his winnings.

Attendance: Mike Hurt won the \$10 attendance drawing. Calendars are available from John Allesee now. All that registered for Homecoming will get 1 calendar. Extra calendars are available for \$10 each.

Ken Heberling – Secretary ■



## **DACC History 1997 by Clark Hartzel**

### **January Aircooler:**

President: Norm King Vice President: Pete Cimbala  
Secretary: Allan Dollaway Treasurer: Jean King  
Membership: Kim Carless Editor: John Allesee Parts: Sam Christ Activities: Clark Hartzel  
Parades: Sharon Pepke. Meetings at the Royal Oak Senior Center.

55 people came to the Christmas party at the Rochester Golf Club. Gifts were given to Children's Hospital. The first club roster of February 1976 showed 8 members still members after 20 years.

(Only two are still members today in 2023: Pete Cimbala and Clark Hartzel) A decision was made to host the 1979 CORSA national convention. A 3-page membership list was printed with names, addresses, phone numbers and expiration dates. The club has met at Penna's, Sambo's, Matthews Hargraves Chevrolet, Howard Johnsons, GM Training Center, Uniroyal/Goodrich, Silas, Ryan Roadhouse and Royal Oak Senior Center.

### **February Aircooler:**

Room rates for the annual Homecoming is \$54.00. 146 members. Treasury \$4,387.58. We got a nice Christmas card from Mark and Suzie Luther who moved with two Corvairs to Australia. They drive on the left side over there so Mark will convert the cars to steering wheel and pedals on the right side. Ken Hand posted that he is a Michigan Certified Master mechanic and will be working full time on Corvairs.

### **March Aircooler:**

Ypsilanti will start a yearly orphan car show in Riverside Park June first. Since Corvairs were built in Ypsilanti they will be invited even though Chevrolet is still in business. Norm King wrote a funny report that, on a campground in South Dakota, Porcupines are gnawing thru rubber brake lines and drinking the brake fluid. Several campers have discovered no brakes when trying to leave. Park officials temporarily closed the campground. No word on what they did to solve the problem. On February 11th Jim Westervelt taped a TV show, "Motor City Wheels", hosted by Top Hat John, on Corvairs in the northeast suburbs. Jim Westervelt showed a tape of lake Placid NY, where the CORSA convention will be. (This convention remains today as the only one where no hosts or workers lived within 150 miles of the convention site) Bill Cotrofeld is the chairman from Vermont. He made good use of the Chamber of Commerce.

### **April Aircooler:**

On March 8<sup>th</sup> we had a tour to Domino's Farm to see their dinosaur's exhibit. Next tour will be April 9<sup>th</sup> at the Henry Ford Estate. June 1<sup>st</sup> is the Ypsilanti Orphan Car Show. Results of election of officers:

Pete Cimbala is now the president. Marvin Granger is vice president, Elaine Duerden is secretary, John Wolford is treasurer, Parts is Ken Pepke, Kim Carless remains membership, Clark Hartzel remains Activities and Sharon Pepke remains Parades. Pete Koehler has arranged for the Ypsilanti Assembly Plant manager to come to the Homecoming and be a guest speaker. A two page article on Norm King was printed in the newsletter, A commercial by

Chevrolet shows a Greenbrier morphing into a Chevy Venture van. Our member Ed McFarland is doing the interior on Tim "The Tool Man" Allen's truck.

### **May Aircooler:**

July 5<sup>th</sup> is the Cass City parade. Our member Craig Balow was honored by the Detroit Police Dept for having perfect attendance. The May 3<sup>rd</sup> fire station tour is canceled because I went down there to check it out and it is a major slum area with broken glass littering the street. Instead, we will visit the Fisher mansion and later go to a model car show at the Dearborn Hyatt Hotel. A nice thank you letter from Children's Hospital for our donation was printed.

### **June Aircooler:**

A lengthy letter from Mark Luther describing all the work and frustration of converting his Corvair to right hand drive was printed. Moving the steering box to the right side was a major headache. They decided to look in junk yards for a different box. They picked one from a Suzuki mini bus. Looked good until they discovered the car would turn left when steered to the right! They ended up using the Corvair box. It required a lot of welding and cutting to make it work. Our Jim and Marilyn Westervelt oversee the road rally with Clark and Joanne Hartzel on a check point of the CORSA national convention in Lake Placid. We helped Jim and Marilyn score the rally results. Several humerus things happened. It was a photo rally where you had to name the place or activity. One contestant gave us a picture of him with a middle finger raised and another enclosed a traffic ticket they got on the rally.

A complete schedule of all the Homecoming activities was printed in the Aircooler. Kim Carless now has membership cards available.

**Continued next month ■**

**Pete Koehler's "Where FC's go to Die! Pic.  
Go to your meeting for details.**





## Are You on the List?

The following list of names are missing contact information, phone number and / or email address. If your name is on this list, please contact Mike Hurt via his email and let him know what you want on the club membership list. If you do not want your phone number and / or email address to be known, please let Mike know so he can note that is your preference.

Baldwin, Anne  
Bonin, Ron  
Booher, Jim  
Bratke, Ron/Maureen  
Burgess, Tom  
Burton, Trish  
Carbary, Jim/Susan  
Cavcey, Stuart/Karen  
Chmielewski, Brian  
Crawford, Jim/Gloria  
Davis, John/Suzanne  
DeHondt  
Delong, Tim  
Demoss, Gary/Becky  
Edwards, Preston  
Ehrhardt, Stu  
Eipper, John  
Fleischhauer, Jim/Mary  
Force, Ethan  
Foti, Rob  
Grahovac, Jeff/Darlene  
Hamman, Ray  
Harrison, Mike  
Hart, Ben  
Hensley, Orville/Jeanett  
Ketterer, Don

Kubiske, Dave  
Laus, Patrick  
Lok, Dan  
Mann, Jacob  
Monk, John  
Munaco, David  
Newill, Len  
North, Jerry/Joyce  
Richards, Bill  
Richards, Don  
Ronayne, John/Kandy  
Saph Jr, Stephen  
Schwartz, Steve  
Sellers, Pamela  
Shelor, Paul  
Shreve, Gerald/Arloa  
Shuster, Bill/Jacqueline  
Skiver, Patrick  
Tackett, Steve  
Thomas, Shane/Michelle  
Thompson, Dennis  
Tomlinson, Matt  
Tusek, Rod  
Vecchioni, Bill  
White, Rick  
Williams, Lloyd  
Zoiopoulos, LynnYenko  
Zuercher, Mike

## 12/18/23 Treasury Report by Carol Hairsine

11/17/23 Balance \$8790.31

### Income:

Membership \$40  
50/50 \$185.00

### Expenses:

50/50 Payout \$92.00  
Attendance \$10.00  
Haven House Donation \$500.00  
Christmas Cake & plates \$30.30  
Homecoming Calendars \$1035.00

**Balance 12/18/23 \$7125.27**

## DACC Membership Report for JANUARY 2024

Submitted December 17, 2023 by Mike Hurt

**Welcome to our New Members:** Rich Dixon

**Thanks for keeping your membership up to date:**

Bill Richards

**Due in December:** Tom Cavataio, Steve Schwartz, Jerome Yoscovits

We have 147 paid members and 3 due this month.

### \*\*\*\*\*ATTENTION TO THOSE OWING DUES\*\*\*\*\*

**Be aware that the by-laws say that you have till the end of the month you're due to make that payment and then you're dropped. For those due in December, please consider sending it in now.**

**Thank you.**

We are mailing 2 complementary newsletters to Clark's and the Ypsilanti Museum.

If you can't make it to the meeting, send a **check for \$20.00** payable to **Detroit Area Corvair Club** to: Mike Hurt – DACC. Address: 1795 Ring O Kerry, Milford, MI 48381

Questions about membership, change of address/email can be sent to Mike Hurt at (248) 972-7188 or [mdhurt821@gmail.com](mailto:mdhurt821@gmail.com) and leave a message.

We have an **email blast list** to notify members of quickie tours or last-minute changes. Please send me your email address so we can keep this list up to date.

## Activities by Raven Hand

Good afternoon fellow Corvair fanatics. I know winter stinks and we all want to be driving our cars. I definitely would rather drive my van than the truck. Any who.... I just have a few mentionables for you, so here they are.

\* Port Huron Mainstreet Memories Wheels on the Waterfront Registration is open on January 1 Show is on July 27th from 10 to 4 pm [www.mainstreetmemoriesph.com](http://www.mainstreetmemoriesph.com)

\* Chrome and Ice is February 9 - 11 at Dort Financial showplace

\* Kalamazoo Antique Auto Restorers swap meet is at the Kalamazoo expo center February 2nd and 3rd please look them up for info

I am looking for a volunteer for April to plan an event. If anyone would like to and has an idea, please reach out to me. May, we will do our 3rd Dustoff with the West Michigan Corvair Club (details will be later). June we will drive into a A & W also TBD.

## January Meaning

January was named for the Roman god Janus, known as the protector of gates and doorways, who symbolize beginnings and endings. Janus is depicted with two faces, one looking into the past, the other with the ability to see into the future. What a fitting symbol for this first day of the year; this month is our door into the new year.

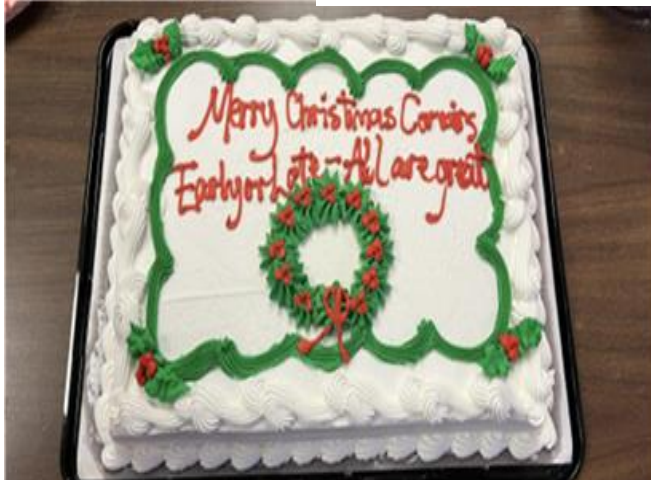
**Homecoming Info to come soon, save the dates.**

## Parts and Services.

**Show and Go Collision**      Tom Cavatio  
9103 Chalmers, Detroit, MI. 48213    313-371-9085

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*Corvair Parts®*

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413-625-8498 Fax  
clarks@corvair.com  
www.corvair.com



**Check out this site and  
expand your  
Knowledge of the  
Corvair.**

<https://www.corvair.org/>

Updated the CORSA Club  
Office address

**CORSA Club Office**  
**PO Box 68**  
**Long Lake, MN 55356**



**January  
DACC  
Monday  
meeting  
will be @  
7pm on  
Jan. 8th.  
Please  
Attend.  
Social time  
starts at  
6pm.**

The Aircooler – Adam Morenski  
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Roseville, MI. 48066

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## DACC Christmas Party 2023 by Kerry & Adam































