

Heart of America Corvair Owners Association

VairCor



March 2024

Volume 60-3



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February Meeting

Our first club meeting of the year was held on February 13, 2024. The meeting, presided over by president Kat King, was filled with announcements, member recognitions, and plans for the upcoming year. Here's a rundown:

Introducing the New Board:

President Kat King kicked off the meeting at 7:04 pm by introducing the newly appointed board members and expressing gratitude to the past board for their hard work. The current board includes:

- President: Kat King
- Vice President: Larry Roberts
- Past President: Scott Allison
- Treasurer: Cindy Anders
- Secretary: Paula Roberts
- Board Members: Floyd Becker, Adam Fisher, Dwight Hamby



Membership and Medical Updates:

There were no medical updates to report, but please continue to support those members who may be battling various issues and ailments. In other member news,

Continued on page 4

HACOA Calendar at a glance

Date	Event
Tuesday, March 12	Monthly meeting, Paul and Jack's Tavern, North Kansas City, MO
Tuesday, April 9	Monthly meeting, Paul and Jack's Tavern, North Kansas City, MO
April ????	HACOA 60th birthday????
Tuesday, May 14	HACOA Annual charity auction
Saturday, June 1	Tech session, Dawson residence, Belton, MO

President's Corner

Don't know about the rest of you, but these beautiful days in February brought out the "Think Spring" in me. Now I have a pretty new, white convertible top on Kandy and her brake lights and turn signals work. I couldn't resist cruising around St Joe to show off to my Street Rod friends. Rarely has she been seen with her top UP. So when I took one guy to lunch with her, he commented: "This is nicer than I thought." That gave me my first thumbs up of the year.

Nice to see everybody at the meeting. Had been too long to be away from our friends. Must say, I was anxious to preside over my first meeting. But then Larry and I tricked Scott into presenting his own award to "himself"! (Hard to get anything past Scott.) That was priceless for me.

To my Valentines
Kat King

The Preventive Maintenance Series

Mike Dawson

Disaster Prevention and Trip Checks (It Is Dust Off Time)!

Since you are reading this, you must own a 55+ year old Corvair; congratulations on a great choice. However, along with the pride and joy comes responsibility. You may have stored your baby all winter or maybe you might be behind on preventive maintenance, in either case the following may be useful as a guide to start the new season. Beginning with disaster prevention:

- If you have not replaced all of the steel brake lines in your car you should do the "stomp test" in your garage. Hit the brake pedal harder than you might do in an emergency. If this passes, then push and hold the pedal with minimum pressure, checking for a slowly sinking pedal which would indicate a bad master cylinder.
- All 164 CI engines should have a harmonic balancer, and just like flywheels, they will come apart with the outer ring quickly cutting a slot in the oil filter. If yours has been in service for decades, keeping an eye on it seems a poor choice when you can change it and take that off the list of things to look at every time you stop. The following is a list of items I suggest checking before taking a trip (or after buying a car). Remember that even long trips are usually less than the mileage between a single oil change. Serviced properly, your Corvair will cruise to all of this summer's events and back. And be happier for it!

1. All Corvairs roll on four sets of wheel bearings and they all can be repacked. Check & lube the 2 or 4 U-joints. Check front end parts and lube the fittings (install any missing ones on the car idler arm or FC lever).
2. Have tires balanced and aligned if necessary. Before trips, check all five tire pressures and tighten lug nuts with the tool you use to change a tire.
3. Check or change all fluids: oil, transmission, differential, brake fluid, washer fluid and battery level (if possible). Synthetic Powerglide fluid is a very good idea, and with regard to oil, remember that our air cooled engines run hotter and have greater engine tolerances than newer cars. A higher number viscosity oil such as 20W50 or SAE30 is recommended for mid summer in the midwest. Castrol has a new 20W50 Classic oil which has higher levels of zinc and a good ZDDP rating.
4. Check the oil pressure sending unit and change this inexpensive item if you do not know its history.
5. Check the engine tune, and include cleaning the crankcase vents. Check the breaker plate in the distributor, lube the distributor cam and inspect the electrical connections such as the primary coil wires, alternator wires (no generators allowed) and multi-connectors. Check carburetor inlet nuts for leaks.

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6. Check the battery date, cable ends, ground cable mount and check the overall charging system with the lights and accessories on maximum.
 7. REMOVE the belt and check the condition of the entire length. Spin all three pulleys and lube anything questionable. Tools are available to grease the fan and idler bearing.
 8. Check all running lights, check the fuse block for rust, check the large multi-connector in early model engine compartments on the left side (by-pass the 10 gauge wire), and check warning light operation.
 9. If air conditioned, blow out the condenser, check the mounts, the belt, check the evaporator drain. Remove the lower shrouds for better cooling if you need it.
 10. Be sure to check a mechanical fuel pump mount, it can work loose. To be safe with the increasing ethanol addition you should have a new version of the mechanical pump or an electric pump. If you already have an electric pump, check the pre-filter.
 11. Lube your late clutch cable ball and look for frayed cable between the two pulleys under the dash on early models – also check parking cables in the same area and lube the parking brake ratchet.
 12. Check brakes; wheel cylinders, shoes, master cylinder (push rod leak under the dash), and most important, the steel and rubber lines. As noted above, give your car the “stomp test” in the driveway. Steel lines above the gas tank and next to the transaxle are the most prone to rust, with tunnel lines next.
 13. Be aware of any speedometer error you may have and know your oil consumption rate. Test drive 15 minutes on the highway on a hot day, pack up and head out! Spares and tools? My favorites would be a belt, a new fuel pump, one rocker arm with pushrod and valve cover gasket, one 30 amp fuse, a set of points and condenser (if equipped), oil as required, tools for these items, and a CORSA Travel Roster (Cell phone and credit card are assumed to be permanent contemporary companions).

There are other tech articles in this series that could help you address many of the above items.

February meeting, continued from page 1

it was noted that 20 members have yet to pay their dues for 2024.

Treasurer's Report:

Cindy Anders provided a financial update, providing our balance from expenses and contributions. The report included details on receipts and refunds related to the Christmas party and other expenses. Dues were also received.

Committee Reports:

- Newsletter: a big thank you to Helen Moore, who is helping the newsletter editors with photography of the meeting!
- Parades: Kat King announced an upcoming parade on May 5th.
- Social Chair: Scott shared plans for a car show in Hastings, Nebraska, on May 5th.



Projects in Progress:

Several members shared updates on their ongoing projects, including restorations and modifications. From Scott's 1965 Blue Corvair to Kyle Lewis's 1961 Coupe Monza, many people have been busy.

Old Business:

The Annual Christmas Party held at Trezo Mare on December 1, 2023, was well-received, with positive comments about the attendance, food, service, and location.

New Business:

A special moment during the meeting was the acknowledgment of Scott Allison's dedication to HACOIA. A letter of praise and appreciation was read, honoring Scott for his exemplary leadership during the last two years. Scott was presented with a plaque in recognition of his service. The best part was the fact that Kat started reading it before handing it off to Scott to finish reading; he's done a lot for our club, not only as president but also as a member and friend. Thank you Scott!

Looking ahead, plans for HACOIA's 60th-anniversary celebration in April are underway, and details about the host and location will be shared soon. Additionally, thoughts have turned to the Annual Christmas Party 2024.



Regional Swap Meet:

There was a proposal to participate in a Regional Swap Meet for car parts in Oklahoma City in October/November. A show of hands indicated interest, with 10 members favoring a one-day event and 5 members expressing interest in a two-day meet.

The meeting concluded at 7:45 pm. Our next meeting is set for March 12 at 7:00 PM. See you there!



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?

Thank you

Thank you is not enough so I'm just leading with that. The plaque that Kat presented, or should I say wrangled me into presenting, is wonderful and amplifies how great the people are that make up the Heart of America Corvair Owners Assoc. I couldn't have done it without the rest of the board so again thank you Helen, Larry, Cindy, Gary J, Paul, Don B, and Travis for your help and support. I also must thank Don W., Chris & Meaghan, Travis, Kat, Ken, Paula, Adam, Mike, Taylor, Dwight, and Bill B for their outstanding handling of the various committees for the club year 2023. Last, but not least, thank you to all of the members for allowing me to serve as your President for another two years.

Sincerely, Scott Allison

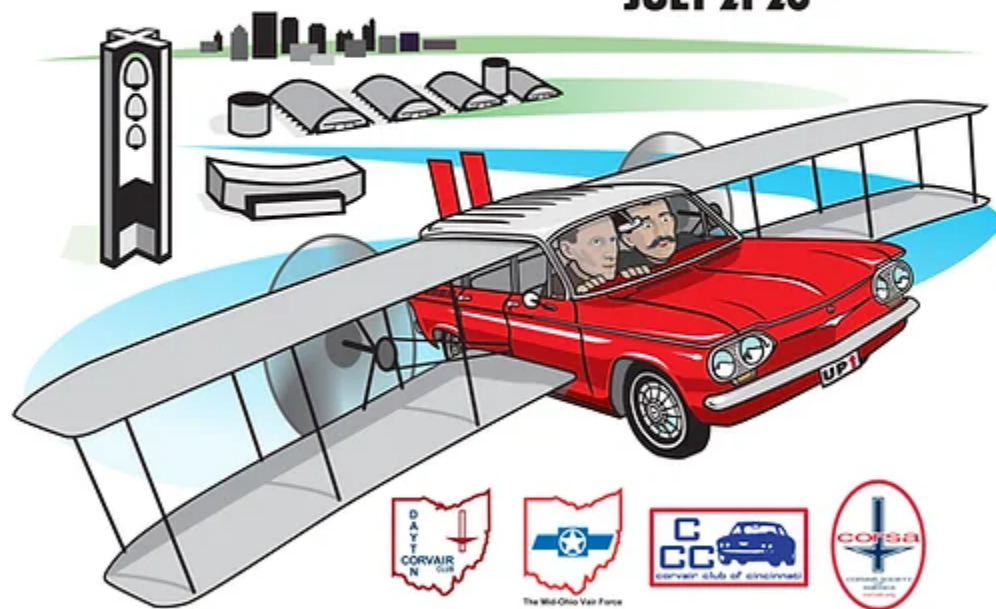
Time to get out!

Car show and parade season is upon us so be sure to snap a few photos if you attend one and share it with the newsletter!

hacoa1news@gmail.com

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

March	
Name	Date
Dominique Allen	2
Marilyn Killion	6
Robert Franklin	12
Paul Skeans	13
Dean Sego	13
James Gargano	18
Ada Koch	22
Charlie Clark	24
David Irwin	25
Jim Conway	28
Jack Bacon	30