

THE Aircooler

DETROIT AREA CORVAIR CLUB

ESTABLISHED 1974

Volume 4, Issue 4

50 YEARS AS YOUR CORVAIR CLUB

April 2024

From The Dashboard of Your DACC President, Pete Cimbala Corvairkid1963@lentel.com; (15)

The nice weather this winter has given us the choice of driving cars and trucks that are usually put away for the winter and kept off snow and salt covered roads. It does feel good to get behind the wheel again and quite a few of you did bring a Corvair to the March meeting 10 if I remember correctly and 2 in February. We will see what the April meeting brings maybe we can have another nice day to drive something cool or dare I say s***. There will be another second Saturday breakfast, watch your emails and the Facebook page for details. May brings us a couple of Dust-off events in Flint and the Lansing area and nice weather for sure. At the last meeting we covered a lot of things, one was about having to be a CORSA member to attend the International Convention in Dayton. I am not sure what month it was but 50 years ago this year I mailed my dues to the CORSA office and became a member so I could attend and enjoy my first convention in the Chicago area where I had family to visit at the same time. There were a lot of parts in the swap meet and Clark's had new parts. As a new young Corvair owner there was a lot to see and do, since that first event I have been to 18 conventions off the top of my head. My dues are due in April so maybe that is when I first joined? Over the years there have been attempts to make membership in the national club a requirement of joining a local club, I know this is required in the

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Make checks payable to. Detroit Area Corvair Club

Please enjoy this article by Tanja Greer, I even enjoyed her email to me, so much so, I am adding it with her story. Adam

Hi Adam,

As you know I do love my Corvair and truly enjoy being part of the DACC. I cannot say enough good things about all the wonderful people in the club and the garage squad and am extremely thankful for all the help they have given me over the last



years. I often get asked why I got into Corvairs in the first place and wrote the attached article. I sent it to Bob for advice and he suggested I sent it to you. I also submitted it to "Throttle Gals" - a women-based magazine in the Detroit area - to provide an overview of Corvairs and give the DACC some advertisement. I couldn't decide on pictures so added a few more pictures at the bottom of the article. If you end up selecting this article, please feel free to delete any of them if there are too many.

Why I love my Corvair

Many people seem surprised when I, often with at least one of my 4- and 5-year-old sons, pull up in front of a local ice cream shop in my beautiful 1965 Corvair Monza – affectionately called Klara. They ask about the car itself and the unique history and still seem puzzled

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April name meaning and origin

Possibly from the Latin word aperire, meaning "open" in relation to buds opening and flowers appearing in spring.

From the Rear Deck of the DACC VP, Tom Murray

guitar mechanic@yahoo.com

Tom is busy in Traverse City at a robotics convention, he will have an article next month. Maybe about his time in TC? What do you think Tom. ■



I Love My Corvair article continued from pg 1.

why I, a German citizen with no connection to the American automotive industry until I moved to Michigan in 2018, got into Corvairs to begin with. I am by no means an engineer or mechanic and although I understand the basics of how a car runs (mainly magic with a little bit of mechanical components), know little about the facts. I enjoy going to car



shows and events but usually zone out when someone rattles off the specs of their car. What fascinates me is the designs of classic vehicles, the people that are passionate about them and the feelings and energy the cars bring to their owners and observers. With that

in mind, it might not come as a surprise that what made me chose a Corvair was not the unique engine design or fascinating history (although both caught my interest) but really the beautiful dashboard and steering wheel - the aesthetics of it - and the feeling of freedom and being detached when driving it. I have always dreamt of having my own "ice cream car" - the classic convertible with a light, big steering wheel and ideally a white shift knob that just makes you happy as you enjoy your ride to get an ice cream on a sunny Saturday afternoon. Klara originally came from Arizona and came to me via a classic car dealership in Wisconsin. My requirements were a manual (she is a 3 speed, now converted to a 4 speed thanks to the DACC Corvair Club and their garage squad), a convertible and a second generation with the curvier, slightly sportier look. I did not care so much about the factory AC she came with since it was a lot heavier (so heavy that it required more tire pressure in the rear) and blocked the entire engine bay. I immediately fell in love with her and can think of only a few things that bring a bigger smile to my face than driving her down Jefferson with the roof down, the sun on my face. ideally my husband Aaron next to me and my sons Konrad and Kilian on the backseat, knowing that the next stop will include an ice cream or picnic in a scenic surrounding.

Continued pg 3

President's article continued from pg 1.

Vintage Chevrolet Club (35-year member) and the Buick Club of America and I am sure most if not all of the other make clubs are the same. I just read tonight that we hit 1100 members on Facebook, and we should be close to 160 dues paying members in DACC that makes us the largest CORSA Chapter or maybe the second largest, I need to do more research to be sure. We need the national organization for our event liability insurance that is provided at no cost to us for the Homecoming activities and meetings should anything bad happen. Without this coverage we would have to pay the policy premium and that would add to the cost of the event. So where am I going with this, well there are many advantages to being a CORSA member one is the nice glossy color CORSA Communique that comes in the mail 10 times a year. A couple months are combined into one issue. There are a lot of interesting things to read and retain like owner stories and a lot of tech articles, racing results, convention results and even new and used parts and cars for sale. With the number of new dues paying members and Facebook page members I bet a small percentage are joining CORSA. We need to support the National Club to keep it alive, the \$45.00 a year dues are not that bad when you think about it being only \$3.75 a month. Each year at the Homecoming registration table we have applications for you to fill out and send in by mail or complete it online at Corvair.org

Have a Happy Easter and I will see you on April Fool's Day at the 300 Bowl for dinner. ■

Enjoy Spring, go for a ride! Like us on Facebook

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I Love My Corvair article continued from pg 2.

That said, when I think of or talk about Klara (which happens frequently), it is the people that will never make me consider another car again. Through my Corvair I found a community in the DACC (Detroit Area Corvair Club). The members of the DACC Corvair Club have welcomed my entire family with open arms from the first Facebook post and club meeting to today. This is



particularly amazing to me since I, as mentioned before, am not a gear head and am therefore not nearly as good in speaking intelligently about the ins and outs of my car as for example my husband can. But to the DACC members it does not matter, we are all part of the crew and accepted and welcomed exactly the way we are — since we all have something in common: the passion for our Corvairs. Every member in my family loves going to the club meets and the annual homecoming, learning from Pete Koehler's wealth of Corvair knowledge or cheering for Chris Hand in his Corvair racecar at Waterford Hills Racetrack. With our next relative 1900 miles away, the



members of the DACC sometimes even feel like family. When I first got Klara, I made a promise to myself that, although I know little about cars, I will be part of every project that needs to be done on her. I installed an electric fuel pump and redid the fuel hoses. I installed seat belts in the rear seat (those were optional in 1965) and, with the help of my father, did some work on the wiring to fix my blinkers and learned to solder on the way. But the biggest, most daunting task came when my clutch wore out last year. I will admit that I almost broke the promise to myself and was close to bringing Klara to a shop to fix it. But the DACC garage squad, and particularly Bob Wittman – my unofficial DACC mentor – urged me to take them up on helping me with a 4-speed transmission swap. And sure



enough, the garage squad (with Bob at the helm and ably assisted by enthusiastic and knowledgeable helpers Pete, Kerry and Rich) came out close to 10 times over the winter months to remove the clutch and rebuild the transmission, fix numerous issues on the way all while welcoming me in their circle and patiently explaining (often multiple times)



how the various parts of the car work. And some of you might wonder what the price is for a crew of experienced engineers and mechanics that come out regularly to work numerous hours on your vehicle with their own tools? The



price is Hungry Howie's pizza and a donation to the Ypsilanti auto museum. If that alone is not proof of what grand individuals make up the DACC then I don't know what will. The next time someone asks me why I love my Corvair the answer will be simple:

It's the aesthetics, the feelings but most of all it is the people and the community that came with her that will always put another car make or model in the shadow.

Tanja has more pics that will be in the online Aircooler.

DACC March 2024 Meeting Minutes

We had 41 people in attendance for the March DACC meeting along with 10 Corvairs!

Treasury report shows that we have \$7105.63 in the account.

Membership report shows 154 paid members including new members at the meeting. New members at the meeting included Neal Kobylik, Al Houtman, and Jason and Reena McMahan.

Aircooler update from Adam – needs articles and noted that we can all check out the on-line newsletter links for added Corvair information.

Activities: Second Saturday of March will be Leo's Coney in Plymouth. Second Saturday of April is TBD at this point. Second Saturday of May (5/11) is the Dustoff with the West Michigan guys (rain date is 5/18). The Dustoff will end in the Lansing area.

Homecoming update – Lori noted that she needs items for the Goody Bags. Need auction items. About 20 people are registered at this point.

Pete Koehler is planning another Garage Squad Take-A-Part party. This is still planned for 4/27/24 at this point in Schwartz Creek.

Swap & Sell: John Allesee has 2024 calendars for \$10. Munk has a white 61 Lakewood for sale. Pete C. has owner's manuals for \$5 to \$10 each.

The 50/50 drawing drew in \$130 total, with Adam Morenski winning the \$65.

Attendance drawing for \$10 was won by Bob Wittmann. Attendance drawing for the Marquee picture was won by Tom Murray. Tom will need to get a picture to Mike Anstine for the April meeting.

The April meeting will be held on April 1st at 7 pm. Ken Heberling − Secretary ■

Treasury Report BY Carol Hairsine

2/17/24 Balance \$6803.85

Income: Membership \$80.00 50/50 \$130.00

Homecoming \$1115.00

Expenses: Newsletter \$253.22 50/50 Payout \$65.00

Attendance \$10.00

3/17/24 Balance \$7800.63

Activities by Raven Hand

Hi, April 13th will be Second Saturday Breakfast, 9 am breakfast meet at Leo's Coney Island at 5076 Highland road in Waterford 48327. As always, I will eblast and make it FB official ahead of event. I hope to make it in April!!



Is your contact info updated with membership?

DACC Membership Report for APRIL 2024 AIRCOOLER

Submitted March 16, 2024 by Mike Hurt Welcome to our new members: Neal Kobylik, Al Houtman, Jason McMahan

Thanks for keeping your membership up to date; Michael Jacobi

We have 156 paid members and 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

A note about dues renewal dates, on your Aircooler to the right of your address label is a date – that is your current date to renew your membership.

Questions about membership, change of address, email info can be sent to Mike Hurt at (248) 972-7188 or 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. •

Track your mileage.



Pete Koehler's "Where FC's go to Die! Pic.



Here is another pic for the series of dead FC's in Dexter Land. The buyer of this Rampside was able to get it running again! So not all FC's at the Dexter farm had to die. Next month I might have a few teaser pics of the rarest of rare Corvairs that we found in a barn there; a 1962 Loadside!! And it has been restored by a very enthusiastic Corvair friend.

April 27th Corvair Revival?

By Pete Koehler

I admit that I watch too much TV and view maybe a few too many YouTube vids. When not watching Matt's Offroad Recovery I like to see why idiot drivers crash into other idiot drivers. After that excitement maybe a few Vise Grip Garage sessions will grip my attention span. Derek Biere is the "Maverik Mechanic" who recently landed a show on the Motor Trend Channel on TV called "Roadworthy Rescues". Some of the stuff he does is scripted for the show - like throwing parts out of the cars or dropping a battery down into an engine compartment. But he does have some wrenchin' ability. Maybe we could follow his lead and save a couple of sad Corvairs?

On Saturday, the 27th of this month we might try to get at least one of the four remaining Norm King funeral cars back up and running. These cars were traded for services when Norm died about 13 years ago. They were sitting in his yard for years before his death. How many years? No idea, but from the looks of them MANY! The red '64 coupe has the best chance since it was driven to its spot in the field. There is a '63 coupe sitting next to it and a '62 coupe hiding under a pine tree. Of course, we could just haul these relics over to Motor City and tear them apart and scrap out the carcasses. And that would be fun, but what about trying to fire one up before we tear it down?

We will have tune-up parts, a couple of rebuilt carbs, some used but functional fuel pumps, a boat gas tank, a fresh battery, maybe a known good starter and a positive attitude. Will we get at least one of them to run? If a Corvair engine will turn over by hand (360 degrees preferred) it should be able to be saved. What do we do with the car(s) if they can be coaxed back to health? Your choice. None of these beauties will ever grace the stage at a Mecum auction, but we could have some fun getting them back up again.

Homecoming vs. CORSA National ConventionBy Pete Koehler

It is simple. These are two vairy different events. Each has a place in our Corvair Hobby. The Homecoming is all about the cars and the people that own them. As the name implies, the Homecoming allows Corvairs to come back home to where their journey began. And they are brought back to Michigan by their owners - our friends. Of course, we welcome all Corvairs regardless of where they started out. Similarly, we welcome all Corvair enthusiasts regardless of their club affiliation. We even welcome non-clubby Corvair enthusiasts to our event. The Homecoming is planned, organized, funded, and presented by volunteers. Prudent planning should result in an event that pays for itself. The goal is not to cash in and end up with a pile of profit at the end of the weekend. It offers a refreshing weekend of activities at a very nominal cost. An added bonus is that all of this is

that all of this goodness is just down the road in Ann Arbor. A short drive for most of our members and friends.

The CORSA National Convention is an event that is staged as a benefit to CORSA members everywhere. It has some of the same events as our Homecoming, but it also allows those folks who seek recognition to obtain some. Best of Show, Promotion to Senior Status, National Fastest Time of Day (FTD) and of course the Edward N. Cole Competition are things not part of our local event. Planning and producing these things require resources. The hosting local chapter supplies resources as does the CORSA HQ. If the National turns a profit it is split between the local host chapter(s) and the CORSA Office. If the National does not break even or results in a loss, then that is absorbed solely by CORSA.

It comes down to a choice. Your choice. If you can justify the benefits of CORSA membership and want to attend the biggest event on the Corvair schedule, then plan your trip to Dayton in July. If you are satisfied with the "Corvair fix" that you get from attending the Homecoming, then we will see you in Ann Arbor just before the National. But if you think that some Corvair fun is good - then more Corvair fun should be better...Why not visit both events? It will be a super cool July this year for sure!

The Garage Squad Needs You

The Garage Squad will be hosting an event on Saturday, April 27th at Motor City Auto Sales in Swartz Creek. The address is 6470 W. Maple. Start time is 10 AM. The day's activities include a visit from some of our Canadian friends to pick up some parts and help with the teardown of a 1964 Monza coupe. The first order of



biz will be to get the '64 to run. Then we will remove the entire powertrain and prep it for installation in our President, Pete Cimbala's barn find '64 convertible. One team will do the removal from the coupe and a second team will prep the convert

by removing the 1961ish engine and trans. Once all of the bits and pieces are laid out on the pavement, we will reassemble one car (the convertible) and trash the other one (the coupe). It should be fun! Hopefully we can get the convertible to fire up with a correct 1964 enginetrans/differential and rear suspension. Pete may not be able to drive his newly refurbished car home, but he should be pleased with our work. Wanna help? Just be at Motor City on Saturday the 27th. Yes, there will be a lunch served. It wouldn't be a DACC event without eating, right?

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44th DACC Homeco	Millia	July 11-14" 2024
New swag options see below	THURSDAY	 Registration 2 pm – 6 pm Ken Pepke's World Class Hospitality Room 2-6 with lunch availability Ypsilanti Automotive Heritage Museum Lunch Swap Meet set up
Included with your registration is your meals, snacks, pop, water, beer on tap, calendar with top 25 cars from people's choice, valve cover race, road rally, movie, etc . A complete up to date schedule will be in your registration packet	FRIDAY	 Registration 8 am – 6 pm Ken Pepke's World Class Hospitality Room Women's Activities as posted Road Rally Valve Cover Races Swap Meet // Tech Session Cook Out / Picnic Movie
For additional information contact PETE CIMBALA 810-621-9866 or 810-241-8593 Email: hcinfo@detroitcorvairs.com REGISTER ON-LINE Detroitcorvairs.com	SATURDAY	 Registration 9 am – 2 pm Ken Pepke's World Class Hospitality Room Mystery Event to be announce soon People's Choice Car Show, Model & Toy Show Swap Meet // Tech Session Live Auction
Stay informed go to our Facebook Group "Detroit Area Corvair Club"		 Pizza Party See <u>namebadge</u> for seating <u>time</u> Calendar Winners "Drive Thru" Show
Hotel location: Wyndham Garden 2900 Jackson Rd, Ann Arbor, MI 48103 734-665-4444	SUNDAY	 Wine & Cheese Event (\$10 extra) Hotel guests only Leftovers, Farewell

Register online with this link. Use group code online 071024COR under special rates and put in code before entering date https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/wyndham-garden/ann-arbor-michigan/wyndham-garden-ann-arbor/overview

Or call 734-665-4444 to make your reservation, be sure to mention "CORVAIR 2024" to receive the special room rate of \$99 to \$125 based on room type plus tax, per night. **Book before June 10th** when <u>block</u> is <u>removed</u> and the price goes up. Make sure if booking online that you go to the Wyndham website not a 3rd party booking company.

PLEASE / PLEASE when writing your check put the full name "DETROIT AREA CORVAIR CLUB"

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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



April DACC
Monday
meeting
will be @
7pm on
April 1st.
Please
Attend.
Social time
starts at
6pm.

The Aircooler – Adam Morenski 15237 Roycroft Roseville, MI. 48066 BULK RATE

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Added pics from Tanja Greer for the article "Why I Love My Corvair"

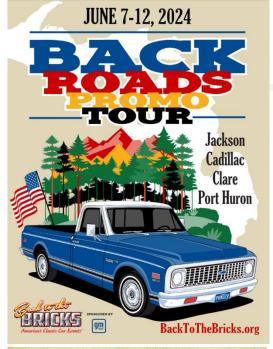


Enjoy the Corvair world newsletters.

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To Register, contact: Glenn Martin (517) 672-9058

\$20.00 day of event

Donations are being accepted, please make checks payable to: VETLIFE https://www.vetlifetoday.org











Wednesday, May 8, 2024 Davison High School



Have a hot rod, classic, muscle or cool car? Come show it off!