

# the fifth wheel

APRIL 2024

#### HTTP://WWW.CORVAIR.ORG/CHAPTERS/LVCC

**ESTABLISHED 1976** 

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This is the cover photo from March issue of "Corvair Mail", the official quarterly magazine of the Nederland Corvair Club. Richard Llop of Vlijmen in the Netherlands is in the process of restoring this pretty Corvair sedan. It appears to be a 1960 but notice the wind split in the hood! Do you know why?

Swap Meet: Saturday April 13, 9 AM
Place: Egerton Farm

Meeting: Saturday April 20, 10 AM Place: America on Wheels Museum

## Swap Meet, New Members and More!

## Coming Right Up!

Hi Everybody! The Second Annual All-Corvair Swap Meet is coming right up. Check out the full-page ad on the opposing page! Of course, you are invited.

There is no fee for setting up a table or a blanket to sell those Corvair parts you know you'll never use. Or sell 'em out of the trunk of your Corvair. Either way is OK.

And while you're there, check out the parts being offered by other Corvair vendors. Remember, one man's junk is another man's treasure, and that especially applies to Corvair parts!

Of course, you can offer used Corvair parts as well as NOS parts. But the old axiom applies even at a swap meet: Shiny clean parts always sell better than dirty, greasy parts. So, for those of you who will be bringing stuff that's been sitting in a pile at the back of your yard for the last twenty years, do some scrubbing before you haul your it to Egerton's Farm. You'll be thankful you did!

Buy, sell, barter – it's a swap meet, so make any kind of deal within reason. No, you can't swap Fluffy for a clutch disk.... Attention: We'll have good eats so you can stay on the premises all day! Be there...

#### Welcome New Members!

During March, Barbara & Louis Nivert of Clark's Green, Pennsylvania joined us. Barbara owns a turquoise 1967 Monza convertible. Please offer them a hearty welcome. You can reach Barbara and Louis at barbniv@comcast.net.

## **CORSA Elections & Bylaws**

Attention CORSA members. The Corvair Society of America has two major ballots coming up for your vote during April and May. The annual election of directors is currently underway. Here in the Eastern Division, two seats are up for grabs.

In May, the directors election will be followed up with another call for members to vote. This time, they'll be asked to approve a new set of bylaws. Although the bylaws have been amended a couple of times over the years, the main provisions have a long history going all the way back to 2011.

Here are the basics of the bylaws proposal. Reinstate term limits for directors. Reduce the number of directors from

twelve to nine. Establish fixed dates for the nomination, election and seating of directors. Recognize email, teleconferencing and videoconferencing as valid means of conducting official business. Adopt gender-neutral language. Require community guidelines to assure mutual respect between members and recognition of their membership rights. Establish rules for the use of members' personally-identifiable information. Delete references to obsolete committees. Etc. Complete details will appear in the May CORSA Communique magazine.

## Corvairs for Sale. Cheap! (Maybe)

We were recently informed that Beach Lake Auto Body of Beach Lake, PA is offering two Corvairs for sale. Both are early four-door sedans. The black car runs and has a legal title. The other one, not so much. Based on the photos, I'd say these are one notch above parts cars, but you can judge for yourself! Contact Tanner Drongoski. (Actually, Tanner hasn't specified an asking price, so maybe he'll give them to you for free... or maybe not!) Email: beachlakeauto-body@gmail.com Mobile Phone: (570) 616-5794.



## Lehigh Valley Corvair Club

# All-Corvair Swap Meet

Saturday, April 13, 2024

rain or shine 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

at the Egerton Farm 2510 Community Drive Bath, PA 18014

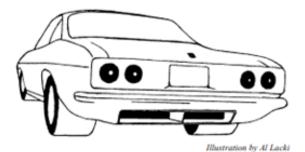
> FREE for sellers FREE for buyers FREE admission FREE parking

REFRESHMENTS (okay, they're not free) 50-50 Raffle (that's not free, either)

Corvairs, Corvair Parts, and Corvair-Related items only, please. Sellers, bring your own tables or tarps or canopies. Buyers, bring cash!

See our Facebook page for details





# MINUTES Lehigh Valley Corvair Club

Membership Meeting March 16, 2024 America On Wheels Museum Allentown, PA

President Allan Lacki called the meeting to order at 10:04 am. In attendance were Ryan Cengeri, Bill Dittrich Sr, Bill Dittrich Jr, John Egerton, Walter Ingles, Allan Lacki, Bob Marlow, Scott Oberholtzer, Dan Schmidt, Dave Smullen, and Dick Weidner.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved as published *The Fifth Wheel* newsletter.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the treasurer's report was approved as published *The Fifth Wheel* newsletter.

Old Business: President Allan Lacki reported that additional activities for 2024, including a possible covered bridge tour and a visit to the Old Spokes museum, are still in the conceptual stake.

<u>New Business:</u> It was reported by President Allan Lacki and Secretary Bob Marlow that the total club membership stands currently at 51.

Scott Oberholtzer reported difficulty operating the clutch in his Corvair following his recent medical issues, and inquired as to the feasibility of installing a hydraulic clutch system.

It was reported that Dennis Stamm suffered a recent fall, requiring a hospital stay, but he is now back at home.

It was reported that Dick Weidner's wife, who had been in failing health for some time, passed away in January. Condolences are in order.

Ryan Cengeri reported that he is installing Wilwood disc brakes at all four corners of his 1965 Corvair.

A discussion of the upcoming swap meet included "who will be responsible for what."

Allan Lacki announced the 2024 dates for Northeast Corvair Council track events, and provided some background information on the NECC for the benefit of the newer members on hand.

The formal meeting was adjourned at 10:37 AM. This was



followed by informal discussion of wide-ranging topics, including Fieros, Instagram, John Fitch and the Fitch Phoenix and Sprint.

Respectfully, submitted Bob Marlow, Secretary

# Treasury Report By Joan Lacki

Beginning Balance: Feb 29, 2024		\$ 2	,069.68
Receipts:			
Membership Dues:			
Barbara & Louis Nivert	\$ 35.00		
		\$	35.00
Expenses:			
Newsletter Expense (Allan Lacki)	\$ (10.07)		
LVCC meeting donuts	\$ (10.00)		
		\$	(20.07)
Ending Balance: Mar 31, 2024		\$ 2	,084.61

## The All-Important Black Wire

Source: This article by John Moody was originally published in the July 1990 CORSA Communique magazine and was reprinted in the March 2024 issue of "The Chronic Corvair", the official newsletter of the West Florida Corvair Club).

Has your Corvair become crotchety? Fails to start some times? Dies when you put your foot on the gas? Gasps and wheezes on the highway, particularly when you want to pass? Behaves erratically when there appears to be no logical reason for such abnormal behavior?

Probable answer: The all-important black wire.

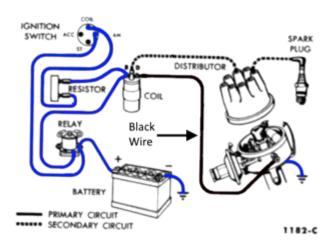
This notorious little item is overlooked for years. It connects the ignition coil, through the distributor breaker points to ground. The points (at proper intervals) break the current flow through the primary circuit of the spark coil, thus inducing the high voltage that fires the spark plugs. Without this timed interruption, the plugs don't fire!

Our Corvairs are now 55 to 65 years old. (Most are over 60

years old now.) For all of that time, this black wire has been exercised every time the vacuum advance (or pressure retard for turbos) operated. Ozone, old age, high temperatures, and oil have all contributed to hardening the insulation to the point where it might as well be made out of brittle macaroni.

On the top of that, copper work hardens. The conducting wire has been broken, strand by strand. Ultimately, the ignition is being fed by one strand. And then that let go-probably on a dark, cold, and wet night, during rush hour. If the butt ends touch, you may get ignition. But when the vacuum advance moves the distributor plate, no contact and no ignition!

It may be time for you to replace this exercised element.



## Identify These Parts!



Here is a little mind-bender posted by Seth Emerson on the Corvair Owners Group, Facebook. Here is what he wrote: "I was cleaning/straightening in my shop/garage and I was sorting some parts. I looked at each part, knowing where they were used on the Corvair, but it wasn't completely obvious. So, I thought: "Time for a quiz!" So, here is a photo with 15 parts shown (and numbered). Anybody want to try and name each piece and where it is used on the Corvair?"

(Answers are shown in the table on the next page. No peeking!)



### **Identify These Parts! Answer Key**

- 1) Support bracket for radio attached to ash tray surround
- 2) Trim at windshield sides to roof side trim on all late models except 500s
- 3) HRT "Horrid Red Plastic Thing" Hot terminal mount late models left frame rail
- 4) Bell housing plug at clutch pull rod connection
- 5) 66-69 3 and 4 speed throttle linkage mounting rod. Screws into trans side cover
- 6) Headlight adjustment tower, used in retention/alignment

of headlight bulbs

- 7) Clutch adjustment clevis (sticks) often worn on the pin portion
- 8) French lock for exhaust manifold clamp retaining nut
- 9) Door panel push-in clip (late models, at least)
- 10) Fuel pump retaining pin and lock nut
- 11) Clutch spring mounting tab. Attached to diff mounting bolt, at least on lates
- 12) Oil filter retaining bolt for A/C or smog pump motors w/ 90 degree bracket

## Invitation from the IronPigs!

I received the following email from the Lehigh Valley Iron-Pigs baseball team. From what I gather, there's no requirement for LVCC to provide any number of cars for the show, so each of us can decide whether or not to go. On the other hand, if anybody is interested in coordinating a Corvair caravan to the show, that would be super.

Hello Allan,

We want to extend the invitation to your club to join us on our car show day at the IronPigs on May 26th. This day entails a full car show in the afternoon with refreshments along with other activities going on. Then with the purchase of the car show you will also be able to go to the IronPigs game at night as well.

CARS &

BAGGSTER NOW

PART OF THE TICKET SALES WILL BE DONATED TO THE
ALLENTOWN FOOD BANK

Top 15 Awards
Open Category
Cover Includes Ticket to Game

MAY
12:00 PM - 3:00 PM
1050 IRON PIGS WAY
ALLENTOWN, PA 18109

\$20

We have 3 hours after the car show ends and before the baseball game starts to then switch cars if you would like. I do not know what your commute would be like but that is part of the reason there is that much time between the car show and game.

If you are interested or have any questions you can email me at astapert@ironpigsbaseball.com or my number at 610-841-1234. Hope to hear from you soon.

Thank you, Andrew Stapert Associate, Ticket Sales Lehigh Valley IronPigs **Triple-A Affiliate, Philadelphia Phillies** astapert@ironpigsbaseball.com 610-841-1234

## It's All Happening at the Zoo...

Here is yet another invitation. In this case, the organizers want to park the cars by club, so they'd like to have a preliminary count of Corvairs we intend to bring. Here is another opportunity to run a Corvair caravan to the event. Would you be willing to coordinate this?

Hi Allan,

We are looking to have a car show here at the Lehigh Valley Zoo on July 20, 2024 from 10am-4pm. The cars will be completely outdoors either on grass or concrete. Of course if there were to be any inclement weather on the day of the event itself, that would be assessed and discussed with me, Pete Kandianis, Director of Sales and Marketing.

With that said, we are hoping to have 25-40 cars in total in various areas of the zoo. Would your club be interested in attending? It is a new concept for us and you have already provided us with some great information. Is it unrealistic that a club like yours could provide 10 or so participants and a MOPAR or Camaro club would provide others and so on? We'd advertise the event on our traditional and social media channels and probably invite food trucks to the event. I wanted to get an idea if this would even appeal to groups like yours to invite the general public to our event to see older and eye catching cars.

We are a small 501 c3 and we are constantly looking to refresh our events to keep visitors interested in visiting our zoo. It's a great LV destination and we'd love to have local folks like your group participate with us. The only thing that would deter this event is if we got a lot of negative feedback from classic car owners and it did not seem like we could get 30 or so cars for July 20.

Please let me know if we can keep the conversation going and maybe we can meet up or talk on the phone. I'd enjoy hearing input from someone in the collectable car community.

Best Regards, Peter W. Kandianis Director of Sales & Marketing 5150 Game Preserve Rd Schnecksville, Pa 18078



Follow-up from the Zoo: We will try to keep car clubs together, but we will also accept individual cars and place them where they fit. Anyone with a car can come out to support the zoo!

# 63 AMP Internally-Regulated Alternator Conversion

By Ryan Counterman, Corvair Center Forum. Aug. 19, 2007

Just did this to the Monza, it was easy and cheap, and should have done it 5 years ago! Those of you running questionable alternators should consider doing this.

#### Supplies:

1 stock Corvair Alternator, condition not important 1 63 amp Alternator, specify one for a '78 Camaro with a 350 ci SBC (Was \$40 at Napa in 2007; Now \$100+) Small amount of wire

2 female style flat blade connectors

\*Disconnect the battery before performing this job\*

- 1. Remove the fan belt, by loosening the tensioner
- 2. Remove the stock alternator support bracket

- 3. Remove the 2 bolts holding the alternator on (2 9/16" head bolts located underneath, hard to see)
- 4. Take the old alternator over to the workbench, and remove fan bolt and fan (you will need an impact to remove it, don't put the fan in the vice, you will need it later)
- 5. Remove the 4) 5/16" head screws holding the 2 bodies of the alternator together, and separate the front housing from the rear. Retain the front housing for the new alternator.
- 6. Do the same with the new alternator, but use care to leave the armature seated in the rear housing, otherwise you will have to reset the brushes.
- 7. Take the old bearing out of the old front housing, and replace it with the bearing from the new alternator. 3) 5/16" head screws hold it in place.
- 8. Reassemble the new alternator with the front housing from the Corvair alternator. I didn't do this but Keith Miller says if you index the wiring plug to the bottom of the alternator, the stock bracket will fit okay. I plan on just making a new bracket.
- 9. Reinstall the Corvair fan, and impact the nut in place.
- 10. Reinstall the new alternator, and replace your fan belt. Set the tension so you can rotate the alternator fan with 1 finger.
- 11. Now the wiring... (Editor: Pre-packaged jumper kits are now available to replace this step). This is what I did, there are other ways to do it. Cut the stock connector off. I took the black and white wire from the alternator harness, and put a female flat spade connector on it, and plugged it into the number 1 terminal on the alternator.

Make a small jumper wire, and run it from the big wire post to the number 2 terminal.

Now unplug your voltage regulator, and make a jumper wire to go from the black and white wire to the brown wire. I will probably eventually splice these 2 wires together instead of the jumper, but I wanted to make sure it would work.

Now reconnect the battery, and test it. With key on engine off, the alternator light should glow brightly, indicating that the alternator is not turning.

Check your battery voltage, should be around 12 volts. Now start the engine. The light should turn off, and battery voltage should go up, to between 13 and 15 volts. If that's the case go have a beer and pat yourself on the back for a job well done!

Editor's Note: Unless you need the extra amps, you can stick with the stock alternator and continue using an external voltage regulator. Replace that old mechanical voltage regulator with a solid state unit for better voltage control. Widely available. Plug-and-play. No more flickering lights.

## LVCC Calendar of Events



## **Cruise Nights**

Interested in doing a cruise night? Go to https://carcruisefinder.com/ It's easy to use and lists more cruise events than we could possibly fit in this newsletter!

## **Car Shows and Other Events:** LVCC-Sanctioned Events denoted with a check mark like this: ✓

### Saturday April 13, 2024 - LVCC's All-Corvair Swap Meet ✓

Location: Egerton's Farm, 2510 Community Drive, Bath, PA 18014. Time: 9 AM to 3 PM. Rain or shine. Price: Free for sellers, free for buyers, free admission, free parking. Buy & sell Corvairs, Corvair parts and Corvair-related items only. Sellers - bring your own tables or tarps or canopies. Buyers - bring cash! This event will be held rain or shine! Refreshments available. Contact John Egerton, (610) 217-0514, jegerton@ptd.net

#### Sunday May 19, 2024 Corvair Ranch Open House

Location: Corvair Ranch, 1079 Bon-Ox Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325. Time: 9 AM 'til whenever. This is a Corvair owner meet-up. Come enjoy our hospitality, good food, games, raffles, prizes (plus a \$100 gift certificate grand prize), and most importantly, the company and friendship of many other Corvair enthusiasts. All this, while finding that NOS, Remanufactured and used parts to keep your Corvair looking great and running smooth. Take a tour of our complete grounds including our "field of dreams" (around 600 Corvairs). Hope to see you there in your Vair! Hosted by the Central Pennsylvania Corvair Club. Contact Tom Rahochik. Phone: 717-624-2805. E-mail: findit@theranch.today

### Sunday June 2, 2024 - General Motors on Display Car Show

Location: Macungie Memorial Park (home of Das Awkscht Fescht), Rt. 100, center of Macungie, Pa. Time: 9 AM to 5 PM. Day of Show Price: \$15 per vehicle. No judging or trophies. High quality dash plaques for the first 100 registered vehicles excluding cars for sale. Door prizes will be awarded by drawing. Flea market spaces 20'x20' \$15.00 pre-registered, \$20.00 day of show. Vendors must furnish tables. For Sale signs are not permitted on the show field. Car corral available. Contact: Rosemary & Don Haley, 9 Beryl Rd.; Paoli, PA 19301. Phone: (610) 608-7904 Email: gmondisplay@gmail.com

#### Saturday, June 8, 2024 - Fleetwood Rotary Show of Wheels Car Show

Location: 334 West Main Street, Fleetwood, PA 19522. Time: 8 AM to 4 PM. Day of Show Price: \$20 per vehicle. People's Choice judging (No Corvair class). Flea market & vendor spaces: \$20 (must register by June 3). Food, door prizes, 50/50, rubber duck races in the creek! Contact info: Gary Eberly (484) 332-1056, garye@effectivegs.com

#### Sunday, June 16, 2024 - 22nd Silver Creek Father's Day Car Show.

Location: Silver Creek Athletic Association • 2943 Route 212 • Springtown, PA 18081. Time: 9 AM to 3 PM. Day of show price: \$10 per vehicle. Rain or shine. Entertainment. Food. Drink. 50/50. Trophies (No Corvair class). Playground for kids. Auto related and non-auto related flea markets. Contact us at SCAAcarshow@gmail.com or visit our website at www. silvercreekathleticassociation.com

#### Thursday July 4, 2024 - Quakertown Community Day & Car Show

Location: Quakertown Memorial Park, 600 W Mill St, Quakertown, PA 18951. Time: 8 AM to 1 PM. Day of Show Price: \$20 per show car. No vehicle newer than 2003. Pancake breakfast, kids activities, firefighter battles, car show, music. For rain delay and other information, call Borough Hall at (215) 536-5001 or visit www.quakertown.org

### Saturday, July 20, 2024 - Lehigh Valley Zoo Car Show

Location: 5150 Game Preserve Road, Schnecksville, PA. Time: 10 AM to 4 PM. Rain or Shine. Price: \$0 per show vehicle. Yes, \$0 and in addition, you get two complimentary admission tickets to the Zoo. RSVP required! The show cars will be parked at covered locations around the zoo property and the organizers need to know how many cars need to be accommodated. The plan is to have club cars parked together. Interested? Call Julia Wilhide at (610) 799-4171 Extension 241 or email jwilhide@lvzoo.org

## LVCC Calendar of Events continued



#### July 22 to July 25, 2024 - 2024 CORSA International Convention - Dayton

Location: Marriott at the University of Dayton, 1414 South Patterson Boulevard, Dayton, Ohio 45409. The Dayton Corvair Club, the Corvair Club of Cincinnati, and the Columbus Mid-Ohio Vair Force had have worked together to host this event and they are eagerly awaiting to welcome you. Schedule includes all-Corvair car show, concours, rally, economy run, tech sessions and more. Hotel reservations can be made now! Call 1 937-223-1000 to reach the hotel. Registration for convention events will open in late February. Remember – You need to be a CORSA member to sign up!

#### Saturday, August 24, 2024. First State (Delaware) Corvair Car Show

Location: Limestone Presbyterian Church, 3201 Limestone Rd, Wilmington, DE 19808. Time: 9 AM to 2 PM. This is an all-Corvair show sponsored by the First State Corvair Club, a chapter of the Corvair Society of America. The entry fee covers coffee, cookies, beverages, a variety of great sandwiches for lunch, plenty of door prices and nice trophies. It was well worth the price of registration. For more info, contact Mike Slotwinski at 302-377-5268 or e-mail him at slinkyslot@verizon.net

### Saturday August 31, 2024 - 58th Annual Duryea Day Car & Truck Show

Location: Boyertown Community Park, 419 South Madison Street, Boyertown, PA. Time: 9 AM to 3 PM. Day of Show Price: \$20 per show car. Price includes admittance to the Boyertown Antique Car Museum. Flea market spaces available. Hundreds of vehicles will be on display throughout the park. Shuttle service will also be available between the Park and Museum throughout the event.

#### Saturday, September 21, 2024 - Central Pennsylvania Corvair Club Corvair Day

Location: Eastern Museum of Motor Racing (EMMR), 100 Baltimore Road, York Springs, PA 17372. Time: 9 AM to 3 PM. Day of Show Price: \$15 per show car. Free flea market spaces. Join us for our Annual Corvair Day event being held at Eastern Museum of Motor Racing (EMMR). https://www.centralpacorvairclub.org

## LVCC Classified Ads



**A&L Corvair Parts:** New Parts: Brakes hoses, air filters, oil filters, tune-up parts, brake shoes, shocks, tail light lenses, gaskets, plugs, cables, choke pull offs, electrical switches, gas filters, caps, backup switches, suspension parts, engine bearings, valves, emblems, exhaust, turbo parts, patch panels, early bezels, head studs, 140 exhaust extractors, Y pipes, mufflers, fuzzies, clutch cables, lower bracket, heim joints, models, magazines, CORSA magazines, Hot Wheels, Racing Champions cars and much, much more. Contact Larry for pricing. <u>Used Parts:</u> Too many to list. Larry Asheuer Call 267-994-1569 or email: a-lcorvair@msn.com

**Sky King Automotive Services:** Now offering Corvair head work. Valve-seat grinding, Pro Flow grinding/ polishing, cleaning-cutting head gasket surfaces, de-flashing, thread repair. (I have measurement equip to confirm correct gasket surface depths). HV carb rebuilding. Top engine cover modifications for one gasket, no more leaks! Sound proofing interiors, gas tank replacements, as well as rear and front axle bearing units. Late rears in stock! Bob King kcorvair@ptd.net or text/call to 610-442-2873.

**Jeff Marvill's Suspension Services:** I have over 45 years of suspension experience and I'm extremely experienced with the Corvair suspension systems as well as all other makes of vintage cars. I also have a computerized alignment system here so all repairs can remain in house. Now that I'm retired, I have more available time to repair these great cars. I can be reached at 267-424-4911 .Jeff Marvill, Perkasie, PA

The Fifth Wheel is published monthly by Lehigh Valley Corvair Club Inc. (LVCC), a chapter of the Corvair Society of America. We accept articles of interest to Corvair owners for publication. Classified advertising of interest to Corvair owners is available free of charge to all persons. Commercial advertising is also available on a fee basis.

## We Meet Here!



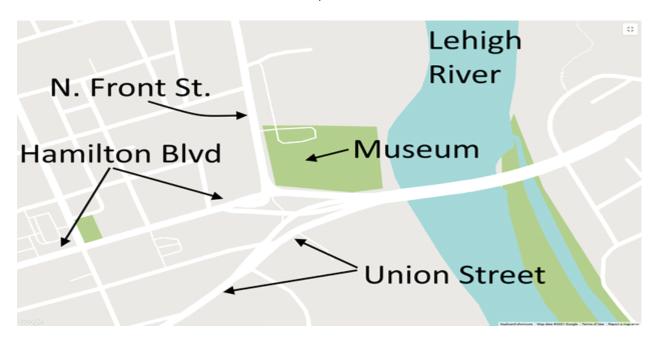


Next Meeting Date: Saturday April 20, 2024

Start Time: 10 AM

Place: America On Wheels Museum

5 North Front Street Allentown, PA 18102





Clark's Corvair Parts<sup>®</sup> 400 Mohawk Trail Shelburne Falls, MA 01370 (413) 625-9776 www.corvair.com



ALL NEW 2019-2025 CATALOG Now Available. Over 16,000 parts, 1,000's of photos, sketches, and diagrams. Order a copy or view online at www.corvair.com

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