

A PUBLICATION OF THE CHICAGOLAND CORVAIR ENTHUSIASTS

A CORSA CHAPTER

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## March 20 CCE Meeting In-Person at Villa Park VFW

The March 20 CCE membership meeting will be held upstairs in the main meeting room of the Villa Park VFW, 39 E. St. Charles Road, Villa Park. Doors open at 7:00 PM. Meeting starts at 7:30. All members are welcome.

## April 10 CCE Board of Directors Meeting In-Person at Manny's Ale House

The April 10 board meeting will be held at Manny's Ale House, 683 St Charles Road, Elmhurst. Meeting starts at 7:30 PM. All members are welcome. Come at 6:30 and eat dinner.

### From The President

Kirk Parro



Hi All,

As we prepare for the upcoming driving season, we should be looking at making our "waterless wonders" ready and safe.

I do not intend to go into all the proper precautions—that would take more space and time to do it properly, but there is ONE suggestion that we should all follow—what Larry Claypool refers to as the "Hard-harder" test.

Get in your Corvair (or whatever other old car you have around!) and, while in your driveway or garage, step on the brake pedal **AS HARD AS YOU CAN. THEN PUSH EVEN HARDER!** (Caution, set your parking brake before performing this test, just in case.)

I think it's a good idea to firmly grasp the steering wheel as you do it, to maximize your foot pressure.

If your brake lines survive this test, all well and good, your lines will survive the summer, if not, then you are not on the highway putting yourself and others at risk!

Metal brake lines are subject to corrosion—and that may not be apparent from the outside—brake fluid is hygroscopic—that is, it absorbs moisture from wherever it can, and our humid Midwestern climate provides plenty. This

means that brake lines can rust *from the inside* and you won't ever know until you get to that "panic stop" situation that comes with a world of hurt!

Even folks with dual master cylinder setups should do this, as the loss of one side means a terrible loss of braking ability (longer stopping distance) and possible "interaction" with the object you're trying to avoid.

If you still have a single master cylinder (as all Corvairs have prior to the 1967 model year), please consider doing the conversion, it's not that hard or expensive, and means a lot less trouble when things go from bad to worse.

One more thing on this subject to remember—rubber brake hoses are really only good for about ten years or so, if you haven't renewed them, it's probably time.

OK, that's it for that. A reminder: This month's General Meeting is Chili-Cook-Off! Get those chilies cookin'!

[Editor's Note: 1960 and 1961 Corvairs have single master brake cylinders mounted under the trunk floor that cannot be converted, but all '62 to '66 single master cylinder Corvairs can be converted to dual master brakes, as can all Forward Control Corvair trucks.]



## From the Director

Paul Polster

Hello to all my fellow CCE club members. First of all, I give a sincere thank you to the club for allowing me to serve as a Director at Large.

I have had an interest in Corvairs since I was a teenager, whatever body style they came in. I was hoping to purchase a late-model convertible but ended up with a 1965 Greenbrier 6 door van as my first one. I am excited to get this one on the road, but cold weather (no garage) and a sprained ankle sidelined those grandiose plans.

I know we are all looking forward to the coming spring weather, with it's warmer days and longer hours of daylight, a much desired situation when one lacks the aforementioned garage. Outdoor picnics, tours of various places of interest, as well as our Corvair displays are my personal favorites.

I plan to start working on my van this month and I am looking forward to bringing it to our meetings. By the way, I did "buy" my first Corvair car just recently. See you at the next general membership meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

—Paul Polster, Your Director at Large



Paul's first "Corvair".

## From the Editor

Charley Biddle

Ramblings from your Humble Editor—

**Stock Is... Articles:** From December 1984 to around November 1991, Larry Claypool published a number of articles under the umbrella title, "Stock Is...". Each article takes on some aspect of what was stock on each year of Corvair in production. These are summaries of things Larry looks for when classifying Corvairs at CORSA Conventions.

Overall, there were about 60 articles published. Some were under the title "Technically Speaking..." and some were correction articles to previously published articles. I have OCR (Optical Character Recognition) software and can take scanned copies of archived *Airhorns* and recover the original text of these articles.

Quite a bit of time has passed since the original publications of these articles, so I will be passing the recovered text of these articles to Larry Claypool for updating and modernizing. It takes about a half hour to an hour of my time to recover each of these articles from the archived *Airhorns* and clean them up. OCR is not a precise science, but it is way better than typing in these articles by hand. OCR sometimes confuses the letter "O" and the number zero, lower case letter "L" with the number one and some punctuation drives it bonkers. Once I have them cleaned up, I pass them by Larry for modern updates, so I will not be presenting all of them at once. I hope to publish one of these articles every month or so in the *Airhorn*.

**Future Costs of Printing *Airhorns*:** In January, the board of directors approved purchasing a four color laser printer and a replacement set of four color toner cartridges. This printer will be used to print the *Airhorn* for those members who have opted to receive their copies of the *Airhorn* in mailed and printed form. I purchased the color laser printer from Office Depot (it was on sale) and the replacement cartridges thru Amazon (they have one day delivery on them and I get a discount because I am a Prime member).

The commercial printer we were using was charging \$90 to \$180 per month for black and white copies of the *Airhorn*. I was constrained to creating 8, 12 or 16 pages of *Airhorn* content, because they start with 8 1/2 by 17 sheets, folded into 11 by 8.5 booklets. I now can make any length of an *Airhorn*, as long as the number of pages is a multiple of two (two sided printing).

The average cost of a commercially printed 12 page *Airhorn* was around \$2.57. Although there is an upfront cost of having our own printer, the eventual cost of printing the *Airhorns* that members sign up for will be cheaper. The high capacity toner cartridges are advertised as being good for 5500 printed sides in color. Amortizing the cost of the printer and set of cartridges over 5500 printed sides will allow us to print approximately 38 months of full color *Airhorns*. Commercially printed *Airhorns*, in black and white, would set us back approximately \$3800 (depending in quantity printed and normal cost of living increases) over the same period of time. This can be compared to the initial purchase cost of the printer and cartridges of \$825. The next 38 months of 5500 cartridge sides would cost us only the replacement cost of the cartridges (\$225 at the time I purchased them; Amazon now has them at an even lower

price). The break even point of using our own printer over an outside printer will occur in about nine months, about the end of this year.

For the next 38 months (or so) the only cost of the printed version of the *Airhorn* will be the cost of postage to mail it out. The US post office raised its prices on first class forever stamps on January 21. To beat the increase, I purchased enough first class and second ounce stamps, just before the rate increase went into effect, to last us for the next five months. Therefore, the monthly Treasurer's Report will not show any costs for sending out printed and mailed *Airhorns*, for the next several months.

I am going to maintain good relations with the commercial printer we have been using for the *Airhorn*. We will need their services for an upcoming Membership Directory and for the registration forms for the Illinois Railway Museum Vintage Transport Extravaganza. The commercial printer has the paper handling equipment to fold and saddle stitch the Directory into its customary booklet format. They also can print and tri-fold the IRM flyers into a form suitable for mailing in a registration packet. Incidentally, IRM picks up all the costs of printing and mailing the VTE registration packets, so none of that will come out of the CCE treasury.

**Thought:** "Suppose you were an idiot and suppose you were a member of Congress; but I repeat myself." — Mark Twain

**Thought:** "If you put the federal government in charge of the Sahara Desert, in five years there would be a shortage of sand." — Milton Friedman

**Thought:** "When I was a kid, I used to watch the 'Wizard of Oz' and wonder how someone could talk if they didn't have a brain. Then I got Facebook." — Anonymous

## Board Meeting Minutes

*Lin Parro for Kevin Kloker*

Meeting was called to order at 7:28 PM attended by Kirk Parro-President, Mike McGowan-Vice President, Paul Polster-Director at Large, Charley Biddle-Airhorn Editor and Acting Membership Chair, Lin Parro-Activities Coordinator, Diane Johnson-member. Not in attendance were Mike Charewicz-Treasurer and Kevin Kloker-Secretary.

**Airhorn Report** – Charley Biddle

Charley announced the February issue is the first *Airhorn* printed on the new CCE printer and reviewed articles featured in this month's issue. The printer was described as having all the bells and whistles, can scan and fax, has phone lines and much, much more. This printer uses large capacity print cartridges and are quite expensive. Charley found less expensive cartridges for about \$225 which will last approximately eight months. There was mention of aftermarket cartridges but will discuss with Mike Charewicz.

**Membership Report** – Charley Biddle

There are 136 members. So far 69 renewals. More and more memberships, new and renewals, are choosing PDF format of the *Airhorn*.

**Activities** – Lin Parro

Lin reviewed upcoming General Meeting activities:

**February** – Sweets Auction. Larry Claypool to be

auctioneer.

**March** – Chili-Cook-Off. Will need to get into meeting room early to setup. As the meeting date comes closer, Lin will have Diane Johnson contact the VFW requesting room to be opened early, have the room setup with extra tables. Board members in attendance approved, a budgeted item, \$125 for prizes.

**April** – Model Car Night. John Meyer and Jim Sikora coordinating.

**May** – suggested perhaps a "Game Night". Suggested ideas could be Corvair Trivia, or Corvair Jeopardy (created by Rich Carroll).

Other activities and events mentioned/discussed:

**Club Get Together** – mentioned that we haven't had one in a while. Suggested not to schedule in March due to not enough time to promote or perhaps use "A day on the Dixie" on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. No comments or suggestions made.

**Spring Tour** – slated for Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. Suggested moving to Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, using "A day on the Dixie" hosted by A's R Us Model A Club or joining the Frankfort Car Club's tour to the Studebaker Museum in South Bend. Will let the general membership decide.

**Picnic** – Suggested and agreed to have at Pottawatomie Park in St. Charles on Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup>. This date will not interfere with the Geneva car show.

**Garage Squad** – Kirk Parro

Kirk will be talking to Jeff Wentz for another Garage Squad session. Kirk also discussed the experience video taping the most recent session.

**Old Business:**

No old business to discuss.

**New business:**

Diane Johnson presented a letter to the Board from her husband, Ray, requesting his honorary status be re-instated. After much discussion, it was agreed that this will most likely happen but want the entire Board of Directors to have a say.

**Adjournment:**

Meeting ended at 8:42 PM.

## General Meeting Minutes

*Kevin Kloker*

**Date:** Feb. 21, 2024

**Location:** VFW in Villa Park, IL

**Start time:** 7:30 PM

**Roll call:**

Board members present at meeting start: **President**–Kirk Parro, **Vice President**–Mike McGowan, **Secretary**–Kevin Kloker, **Director at Large**–Paul Polster, **Absent:** Treasurer–Mike Charewicz. **Committee Heads Present:** **Airhorn Editor and Membership**–Charley Biddle, **Activities**–Lin Parro, **Librarian**–Diane Johnson, **Social Media**–Shelly Claypool, **Absent**–none.

**1. Welcome from Presiding Board Member**

Kirk welcomed everyone with another stupid criminal story about an attempted getaway in a Tesla EV.

There were two first attenders! Doreen Prucha (Rockford,



IL) and Andrew Golt (a.k.a. “Corvairwild” on his YouTube channel) met at the 2023 Wisconsin Dells CORSA convention. They bought a 1962 Monza 4 door, 4 speed, Crocus Creme exterior, with a rare factory cloth interior that has been replaced with vinyl. Andrew also has a 1961 Lakewood with a 4 speed. Doreen recently bought a 1969 Monza convertible, 4 speed, 140 HP.

A former member (did not get his name) said he got a 1965 Monza automatic without a title and was asking how to apply for a new one. He is also looking for a Greenbrier that is wheelchair accessible to help with his wife’s needs.

#### **2. Treasurer’s Report – Mike Charewicz**

Mike Charewicz was absent tonight. Please see your *Airhorn* for the latest financial report.

#### **3. Airhorn Report – Charley Biddle**

This month’s *Airhorn* was printed at Charley’s house on a color laser printer (purchased by the club). Since we have fewer printed *Airhorns* now, this approach is feasible and will save money, with financial break-even expected by Sept. This month’s *Airhorn* is 16 color pages plus a one-page flyer. Charley is experimenting with better paper, compatible with laser printers.

Diane Johnson received her *Airhorn* “shredded” in a plastic bag from the Post Office. Charley will investigate.

#### **4. Membership Report – Charley Biddle**

We have 136 memberships—49 individual, 72 family, 6 honorary, and 9 complimentary members. 51 printed *Airhorns* were mailed out. We have 32 members who have not renewed for 2024 yet. Charley has a list and will reach out to them. He will not print the list in the *Airhorn* again.

Charley will hold any membership renewal checks until Mike Charewicz returns.

#### **5. CORSA News – Larry Claypool**

The CORSA convention is coming up this July 22-25, 2024, in Dayton, OH. Registration opens at 2 PM Sunday with time for vendor and swap meet setup. All official activities will start early Monday, registration opens again at 8 AM. The Welcome Party (shared with the National Impala Club) is Monday evening including a Car Cruise-In with Top 10 Awards open to everyone registered for the convention. Tuesday evening 5-10 PM is the Air Force Museum with heavy d’oeuvres, all for us to explore. On Wednesday are the Road Rally and Economy Run. Thursday is the Autocross, about 30 minutes from the convention site. The concluding banquet is Thursday evening. Friday is free for sight-seeing. Convention registration will be in the next CORSA *Communique* and will be online by that time.

Next *Communique* will also have candidate statements for the upcoming CORSA election. Larry Claypool will be the one and only Central Division candidate.

No update on the Communications Director search for Corvair Preservation Foundation. Their fundraising goal is to acquire a permanent home for the National Corvair Museum.

#### **6. Library Report – Diane Johnson**

For all our newer members, the club has a nice collection of manuals and books to help with your Corvair projects and research. If you want to check out the library, please call, text or email Diane.

#### **7. Social Media – Shelly Claypool**

Shelly reminded everyone we have a CCE Facebook page and a group page for everyone to post pictures and stories. We also have a web site: [ccecovair.com](http://ccecovair.com)

The Corvair Preservation Foundation is looking for someone to ramp up social media about the National Corvair Museum.

#### **8. Special Reports or Announcements**

None.

#### **9. Activities – Lin Parro**

Tonight is our Sweets Auction, a favorite event to raise funds for our local Corvair chapter.

March 20 is our Chili Cook-Off. Bring a [crock] pot of your homemade chili. Everyone tastes and votes for their favorite chili in four categories—Wimpy, Spicy, Inferno and Alternative.

April 17 is Model Car night. John Meyer says bring auto-related models, toys, dioramas, and share your stories about your collection.

The Frankfort Car Club will have a “Spring Tour” to the Studebaker Museum in South Bend, Indiana, probably in April. This is a first-class museum of high-quality cars. We took a quick “show of interest” and decided to join them, the joint “Spring Tour” date to be announced!

June 19 will be our Parking Lot Beauty Contest. Clean up and bring your cars to show them off.

The CCE Summer Picnic is set for Sunday, August 18, 2024. This does not conflict with the Geneva Concours d’Elegance Sunday, Aug 25<sup>th</sup>, 10 AM–4 PM. More details to be announced.

Also mentioned was “A Day on the Dixie,” Saturday June 22 in Markham, IL, sponsored by the “A’s-R-Us (Model A car club). They start with a pancake breakfast at 8:30 AM, and drive to points along the historic “Dixie Highway,” ending about 50 miles south at 3:30 PM.

#### **10. Old Business**

No progress to report on CCE apparel.

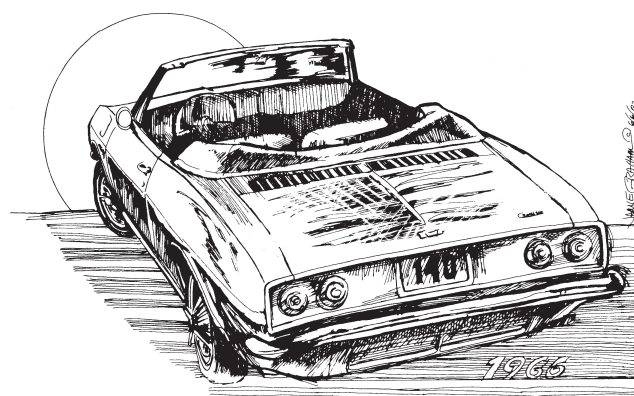
#### **11. New Business**

There is a Big Rock car show on Sunday, June 2. The special theme is “Orphan Vehicles”! Maybe we should show up in force?

The board voted to make Ray Johnson an honorary member again.

#### **12. Adjourn**

**Motion by:** Barb Martin, **Seconded by:** Jeff Wentz, **Time:** 8:23 PM.



## Treasurer's Report

Mike Charewicz

02/1/2024–02/29/2024

### Fifth Third bank Checking Account

	Debit	Credit	Balance
02/01 Beginning Statement Balance			4,198.54
02/05 <i>Airhorn</i> , new in-house printer	576.57		
02/15 <i>Airhorn</i> , Toner for printer	248.59		
02/21 VFW hall rent	200.00		
02/21 2024 Sweets Auction		461.00	
02/29 Closing balance			<b>3,634.38</b>

### Five-Month CD, Matures in August 2024

	Debit	Credit	Balance
02/01 Beginning Balance			10,291.46
02/29 Interest	40.53		
02/29 Ending Balance			<b>10,331.99</b>

### Summary of Accounts

Accounts	Balance
Checking Account	3,634.38
Five Month CD	10,331.99

02/29 Grand Total **13,966.37**

## Membership Report

Charley Biddle

### New Member:

Kenn Sinko  
605 S. Ridgelane  
Oak Park, IL 60304  
(708) 848-3515 (home)  
(630) 452-4326 (cell)  
ksinko605@aol.com  
1964 Monza Convertible

### Welcome Back:

Keith Woodke  
208 Tallman Ave.  
Romeoville, IL 60446  
(815) 407-0052 (home)  
(630) 710-2003 (cell)  
kwoodke@mymetronet.net  
1965 Monza Coupe

**Membership Status:** As of this writing (March 10), we have 139 memberships. We have one new member (Kenn Sinko), one returning member (Keith Woodke) after a several year absence and one new Honorary Member (Ray Johnson) who is returning to his long ago Honorary status. Diane Johnson stays in the club as an Individual Membership. There are 31 memberships that are subject to expiration for lack of paying dues.

**Dues Renewal Season:** We are well underway in our dues renewal season. In November I sent out membership

renewal forms to all members. They were included in the printed and mailed *Airhorns* and postal mailed to the PDF *Airhorn* members. Renewal forms are also available on the CCECorvair.com CCE web site. As of this writing, we have had 92 renewal/application forms returned, 15 of them in the last month. If 2024 dues are not paid by the time the April *Airhorn* is delivered to members, unpaid members will be dropped from the rolls of active members.

**PDF *Airhorn* Adoption Progress:** Last month we had 92 PDF delivery memberships. As of this writing, we have a total of 96 PDF delivery memberships. On the other hand, we have 15 memberships that have renewed and selected printed and mailed *Airhorns*. Of the 31 expiring memberships, we have 14 that currently have PDF deliveries and 17 printed and mailed *Airhorns*. Therefore, we will be printing and mailing out at least 29 issues of the *Airhorn*. It will not be known how many of these 31 will renew their dues or if they do, how many will opt for PDF over printed and mailed *Airhorns*. Stay tuned for next month.

**Expiring Memberships:** I will be sending emails to those memberships that get PDF *Airhorn* deliveries and include a note with all the printed and mailed *Airhorns*, to inform them that the March *Airhorn* will be the last one they receive.

**Birthdays for 4/1 thru 4/30 are:** 4/2—Mary Palermini, Renee Wiesner; 4/12—Paul Ilovsay; 4/16—Keith Watts; 4/17—Richard Rambo; 4/18—Guy Brandes, Linda Pilloff; 4/19—Tony Bagnola; 4/20—Stanley Naymola; 4/23—Lin Parro; 4/25—Joy Lynaugh, Roger Schoon; 4/26—Kirk Parro; 4/28—Dave Kolber, Dave Mann.

**Anniversaries for 4/1 thru 4/30 are:** 4/11—Louis & Gloria Zanon; 4/13—Richard & Kathy Voboril; 4/19—Jennifer & Frederic Giliaizeau; 4/21—Fred & Dawn Castro.

**Membership Counts:** CCE has 53 Active members, 70 Family members, 7 Honorary members

## Activities and Events

Lin Parro

### March

#### General Meeting: Chili Cook-Off

Members!! Don't forget to bring your crock pots filled with your favorite, or experimental, chili recipe.

There are four categories: Wimpy, Spicy, Inferno and Alternative (non-beef or non-red chili). Please make sure you know what category your chili belongs in and **bring a spoon to stir your chili**.

All attending members will taste and vote for their favorite chili. When the tasting is done, everyone is welcome to have a bowl of their favorite chili while the votes are being tallied. There will be chili toppings and other goodies available.

Each category has a winner and is awarded a gift card.

Countryside Collectors Classic Toy Show: Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 10 AM–2 PM.

Local 150 Union Hall, 6200 Joliet Rd., Countryside, IL

### April

### General Meeting: Model Car Night

Calling all model car enthusiasts!!! Dig out those boxes and boxes of model cars (doesn't matter the make) and/or dioramas, dust them off and bring them to this night's general meeting. Tonight is YOUR night to show off your artistry and imagination.

**45<sup>th</sup> Annual AACA Illinois Regional Swap Meet: Sunday,**  
April 7<sup>th</sup>, 8 AM–1 PM.

Napleton Chevy, 2015 E. Main St. (Rt. 64), St. Charles, IL

**Spring Tour:** Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup> (rain date April 27<sup>th</sup>).  
CCE will be joining Frankfort Car Club to the Studebaker Museum in South Bend, IN. Details to the follow.

### June

#### General Meeting: Parking Lot Beauty Contest

This is a members participation activity. Everyone who has a Corvair drives it to the meeting to form a small car show. Members who are participating in the contest will need to register their car. All members, whether you have a Corvair or not, will receive a ballot to vote for their favorite car in the following categories; Early Open, Early Close, Late Open, Forward Control, and Work in Progress. Ballots will be tallied during the business portion of the meeting announcing winners at the end of the break. All winners receive bragging rights for the year.

**Big Rock Classic Car Show:** Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 8 AM–4 PM  
(Registration 8–11 AM)

Plowman's Park, 48w508 Hinckley Road, Big Rock IL;  
featuring Orphan Cars

Free registration, admission, and parking; trophies awarded at 3:30 PM

Visit website: [bigrockcarshow.org](http://bigrockcarshow.org) for registration form and more event details.

**A Day on the Dixie:** Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 8:30 AM–3:30 PM, hosted by A's R Us Model A Club

Will be driving about 50 miles on the historical Dixie Highway. Starting at 8:30 AM in Markham, IL for a pancake breakfast, ending around 3:30 PM in St. Anne, IL. While driving the Dixie will visit points of interest on or adjacent to the highway. More details as they come available.

### July

**CORSA International Convention:** M–Th, July 22– 25,  
Dayton, OH

Host hotel: Marriott at the University of Dayton, 1414 S. Patterson Blvd, Dayton, OH

Visit website [daytoncorvairclub.com](http://daytoncorvairclub.com) for event details.

### August

**Sunday, August 4<sup>th</sup>, 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Vintage Transport Extravaganza, 8 AM–5 PM**

Illinois Railway Museum (IRM), 7000 Olson Road, Union IL. Open to vehicles 2004 and older. CCE assists the volunteers of the museum in coordinating this event. CCE members, each year, are invited to volunteer to help run the gate and enjoy a free day visiting the car fields, museum and ride a few "rails" for the day. Save the date. More information to follow.

**CCE Picnic:** Sunday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, 11 AM–closing,

Pottawatomie Park–River Pavilion

8<sup>th</sup> North Ave, St. Charles, IL

Grill preparations will begin around 11 AM to be available for use by 12 Noon. Everyone brings their own food. There will not be a potluck unless you want to coordinated among yourselves. Unfortunately alcohol is NOT permitted. CCE will be providing pop, water and ice.

Please note vehicles are NOT permitted to drive to pavilion to unload or to assist anyone disabled. Plenty of attractions and activities; go to the Park's website for information.

Anyone for a mini golf competition?

**The Geneva Concours d'Elegance:** Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, 10 AM–4 PM, located on Third Street in Geneva, IL. Visit website [genevaconcours.net](http://genevaconcours.net) for maps and more information.

That's it for me, if you have any activity ideas for club outings, general meetings, or know of any non-CCE upcoming events, **don't be shy**—please send them my way to Lin Parro at (cell) 708-932-9966 (if texting, please identify yourself-thank you) or email to [lindaparro@gmail.com](mailto:lindaparro@gmail.com).

Thanks everyone!

## In Badly Need Of A Vacation!!!!

*Lin Parro*

### ...A Couple Of Corrections

**Picnic:** Originally slated for Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, has now changed to Sunday, **August 18<sup>th</sup>**. In looking at my calendar, as plain as day, I had the picnic scheduled for the 18<sup>th</sup> and the Geneva Concours d'Elegance marked out for the 25<sup>th</sup>.

Thanks to Kevin Kloker for catching my error. After last year of having both events on the same day we did not want to have a repeat this year and OOPS we almost did. I apologize for the mix up and any confusion.

**Sweets Auction:** CCE did very well at the auction. At the end of the evening it was announced that CCE made \$500. Well that's not true. CCE actually made \$477. When counting the money I forgot to reimburse myself \$23 for cash to be used for change. All in all CCE still did very well thanks to you -the membership.

## Model Car and Automobilia Night

*John Meyer*

For this April's general meeting we are inviting members to bring in their favorite model cars. In addition to model cars we are expanding model car night to include any automobilia item, toys or collections that can be displayed.

Many of us have accumulated automotive related "stuff". Some of that stuff has a story behind it. Those are the items that we would like you to bring to the April meeting and share any stories behind these treasures. The item can be as small as a dash plaque from a memorable event to an item that you searched high and low for and finally found. This stuff doesn't have to be Corvair related. Anything automotive is welcome. If it has a story, brings back a memory, or is just something cool, bring it to the April meeting to share with us.



## March News You Can Use

### *Your CORSA Board of Directors*

Springtime is here for many and with it comes a lot of activity in CORSA!

It's time for the **Board of Directors Elections**. In the next issues of the *Communique*, which will come out in mid-March, candidate statements will be published. The voting will begin on April 1 and end May 31<sup>st</sup>. We have a strong slate of candidates running and CORSA is very grateful to those who volunteer



to serve. As members, it is important to be engaged by voting. There are two ways to vote- members mail in the paper ballot published in the April *Communique* or log in and vote online at [CORSA Welcomes You! \(corvair.org\)](https://corssawelcomesyou.com) under User Tools.

**Convention News:** Feedback about conventions was incorporated into the planning for 2024 and you will notice some changes are being made. The Ohio Chapters have put together a great schedule of events. Be sure to make those hotel reservations soon. It is filling up fast. Members asked for the schedule and registration to be opened earlier: Registration is NOW OPEN for the 2024 CORSA International Convention in Dayton OH, July 22-25. All the information for the convention can be found here: [CORSA Headlines \(corvair.org\)](https://corssaheadlines.com). After logging in, registration can be accessed directly at: [2024 CORSA International Convention - Dayton \(corvair.org\)](https://2024corssainternationalconvention.com). The *Communique* will also have more information and a registration form that can be mailed in. The Dayton convention will have a *free* "Cruise In" car show at the *Welcome Party* Monday night. All registered participants will be able to show off their cars with Top 10 awards and prizes. Sign up for the show, Valve Cover racing, and dinner too. There will also be more opportunities to see Corvairs: The Concours will be held at the beautiful Carillon Park and is *free to all registered convention participants between 9:30 and 1pm*. A fun drive to a local town will be held on Wednesday evening for a Cruise Night.

**Chapter Highlights:** In addition to local Chapters, CORSA members have access to several Special Interest Chapters. These chapters focus on specific cars or interests and possess a wealth of knowledge. Find the list here: [Chapter Directory \(corvair.org\)](https://corssadirectory.com)

This month, we highlight the **Stock Corvair Group (SCG)**, CORSA Chapter 010. Learn more about this dedicated group and become a member: [Stock Corvair Group - Saving the Past for Our Future \(stock.corvair.org\)](https://stockcorvairgroup.com). They also have a Facebook group. At the Dayton Convention, SCG will be conducting Stock Evaluations if you are interested in learning more about your car. SCG has a deep archive of information and is looking for more. So, check them out and become a part of "saving the past for our future."

## Stock Is...

*Larry Claypool*

*[This article was originally printed in the December, 1984, issue of the CCE Airhorn. It has been reviewed and updated for this publication by the author.]*

### **Yours for Reading!**

A new type of book has recently made its appearance in the Corvair world - the assembly manual. Since these books were not originally intended for use outside the factory, they can be somewhat difficult for today's Corvair owner to understand. These books are, however, the greatest clue to the eternal concours question of "what is stock". Let's take a closer look at what the books do and how to use them.

Assembly manuals were, as the name implies, the instruction book for the final factory assembly of your car. It is important to remember that, for final assembly, certain major components such as the basic engine, transaxle, front suspension, and the entire body are already complete. The "final assembly" puts those parts in place but does not build them. For example: instructions are given for installing engine sheet metal, exhaust, and carburetors, but the basic engine comes ready-built from the engine plant in Tonawanda, N.Y. Therefore, no instructions are given for building the basic engine at the point of final assembly. Likewise, the basic body was assembled by a Fisher Body plant, so doors, glass, hood, deck, headliner, etc., were all preassembled. The exception to this is Corvair truck models; those bodies were built by Chevrolet Truck, so quite a bit of body assembly instructions are included in the books for those models.

Okay, so now that we know what the assembly manual does not cover, let's look at what it does include.

The manuals are broken down into sections such as engine, suspension, electrical, accessories, etc. Each procedure will have a line drawing of the parts involved as assembled to the car. Where necessary, a second or even a third close-up view of the procedure may be given for clarity. More than one part may be shown for a given operation when different models require them. For example: 500, Corsa, and Monza emblems and their locations are all shown for mounting on the front fender. These parts would then have a notation of their usage, such as "10100 only" or "10700 only". The numbers, of course, refer to the body style as found on the Fisher Body tag.

Where there is a long procedure or many parts involved, several pages may be used. Bumper mounting, for example, requires just one page. Air conditioning takes 25.

Each page of the manual contains two items of great interest to us today. The first is parts required. Every single item, be it a lock-washer, sheet metal screw, or entire engine, has a part number. Most of these numbers are meaningless today, such as one number for an entire front suspension. Others, however, such as spring, emblem, and lens numbers, can often be used to determine originality for that model year.

The second item is even more interesting; that is the revision record. If a part or procedure was ever changed, a revision note was added to the record. These revisions note what was changed and when. Often, you'll find the torque of a bolt was changed. More importantly, parts were changed,

added, or deleted, and here's where the real nitty gritty of what is stock will be determined. By using the revision record, specific dates and equipment can be verified. For example: some of you may know that early 1960 Corvairs with Powerglide used a shift cable that threaded into the case, much as a brake line fitting does. This was changed "early in production" to the bolt and "O" ring arrangement used forever after. But what does "early" mean? One week, three weeks, two months? By checking the revision sheet dealing with the Powerglide shift cable, we find that the cable was changed on 10/2/59, or roughly three months after the start of production. That would add up to quite a few of those "early" production cables!

In the 1963 book, we find several parts deleted on 10/3/62, on the instructions dealing with the turbocharger induction tube and linkage. Looking back to the 1962 book, same instructions, we see that the parts were the carburetor dashpot, hose, and bracket. It is then possible to assume that '63 Spyderys built in early November had the dashpot, and those built later that month and beyond did not.

The 1966 book also narrows down some controversial dates for us. Early '66 Corvairs had the narrow "wedding band" chrome trim ring in the tail and back-up lenses while later cars had the 3/8" wide band that was used through 1969. The sheet on rear end lighting indicates both tail and back-up light numbers were changed on 8/30/65, to the numbers used through the end of production. The significance of these dates is apparent when you check the assembly date of your car as found on the Fisher Body tag. A car built in August of 1965, for example, was originally equipped with the narrow trim lenses, while a December car would likely have the wide trim. It is for this reason that CORSA Concours judging forms require the date of body manufacture. Both lenses are correct for 1966, but either could be a modification for a particular car, depending upon when it was built.

While the manual indicates a date change on a specific part number, it does not indicate when the change actually took place on the production line. Let's take our lens example- the manual says the number was changed on 8/30/65, which would have been very early in 1966 production. If the assembly plant had say a 1000 of the earlier style lenses "in the pipeline", would they scrap them all just to switch to the new one with a slightly different appearance? Not likely. Subsequent owners surveys indicate the narrow ring lenses were still being installed for a few more months after the part number change. Plus, Corvairs were being built at more than 1 plant through 1966, so two cars built the same day but at different plants may have different parts where a change was made to use up existing items on hand. In such cases, knowledge of the car's past is the surest key to what is right.

"Options" is another interesting section of the assembly manual; it covers all those items which were extra cost. For this section, it is important to remember that only factory-available options are covered (a stereo multiplex adapter, for example, was exclusively a dealer-installed accessory, and is therefore not covered), and only those parts and procedures that are different from regular production are noted. For the extra-cost Powerglide automatic, for instance, besides the different transaxle, parts and instructions are listed for the shift cable,

instrument cluster, neutral safety switch, linkage adjustment, and all other items different from the assembly of a standard three-speed manual shift Corvair. By contrast, the optional positraction differential requires only a different part number for the differential, and instructions on where to glue the positraction warning sticker.

Rare options such as the 1966 power rear antenna, the '65-'66 heavy duty pre-air cleaner, and the '68-'69 rear defroster are all covered in the appropriate year manuals.

Rarer yet is some of the information on parts never used in production. The 1962 manual describes an optional Spyder type instrument cluster for use on regular Monza models, including the wagon. An oil pressure gauge was to replace the boost gauge, and a clock used in place of the tachometer on cars with Powerglide. All part numbers and procedures are given, right down to the oil pressure sending unit on the engine. Unfortunately for us, a large "Cancelled" appears on the first sheet. Not exactly bestseller reading, but for the Corvair nut, interesting at least.

If you are restoring a Corvair, or already showing one in Stock class, a copy of your year assembly manual could be most helpful in restoring a vehicle to truly original. In some cases, such as our Spyder dashpot example, an adjacent year manual may be necessary to verify changes and part numbers. Money permitting, a complete set of all years would make quite a reference resource. And fortunately, all volumes are available from CCE's library.

## Tech Tip

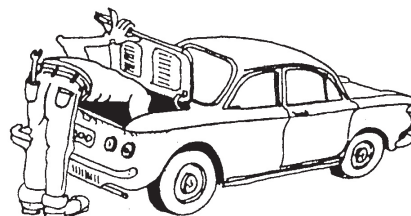
Larry Claypool

*[This Tech Tip was originally published in the March 1987 issue of the CCE Airhorn.]*

Here's one I haven't seen for a while. Ever notice how the front side marker light flashes with the turn signal on many newer cars? It's easy to convert any '68 or '69 Corvair (or any other car with 2-wire side light) to the same operation. Cost in parts is zero and time spent is about ten minutes.

Simply disconnect the ground wire for the side marker lamp from the body and splice it into the "hot" wire for the turn signal bulb -- light blue and dark blue wire in most cars. With the lights on, but signal off, the small wattage side light has no trouble grounding through the filament of the larger wattage signal bulb. Flip on the signal, however, and the side light's ground is lost as soon as power is applied to the signal. Thus, the side light goes out, and will flash alternately with the operation of the signal bulb.

It also works the other way around, that is, the side light will flash with the turn signal if the lights are off, so the side light can help indicate your intentions to other motorists night or day.





## Classified Ad

**For Sale:** Exhaust manifold logs, NOS or great condition, left and right, regular and large sizes. No 1960 or smog.

With stainless steel studs and brass nuts installed. Limited quantity. Regular size \$70 each, large "140" \$75 each. Mike McGowan, [mcvair@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mcvair@sbcglobal.net), 630/629-4392.

## Activities Calendar

### CCE Board

#### CCE SPONSORED OR RECOMMENDED EVENTS

**Mar 13 – Board Meeting,** 7:30 PM, in person at Manny's Ale House, 683 St. Charles Road, Elmhurst. This is about one half mile east of the Villa Park VFW Hall on St. Charles Road and about a quarter mile west of Route 83, on the north side of the street. All members are welcome.

**Mar 20 – General Meeting,** 7:30 PM, in person at the Villa Park VFW on St. Charles Road. Meeting upstairs. Doors open 7:00, meeting starts at 7:30. Annual **Chili Cook-Off**. See Lin Parro's Activities and Events article for more details. All members are welcome.

**Mar 27 – Articles are due for the April Airhorn.**

**Apr 10 – Board Meeting,** 7:30 PM, in person at Manny's Ale House, 683 St. Charles Road, Elmhurst. This is about one half mile east of the Villa Park VFW Hall on St. Charles Road and about a quarter mile west of Route 83, on the north side of the street. All members are welcome.

**Apr 17 – General Meeting,** 7:30 PM, in person at the Villa Park VFW on St. Charles Road. Meeting upstairs. Doors open 7:00. The night's entertainment will be Model Car Night. Bring out your Corvair related model cars and dioramas for display to club members.

**Apr 24 – Articles are due for the May Airhorn.**

**May 8 – Board Meeting,** 7:30 PM, in person at Manny's Ale House, 683 St. Charles Road, Elmhurst. This is about one half mile east of the Villa Park VFW Hall on St. Charles Road and about a quarter mile west of Route 83, on the north side of the street. All members are welcome.

**May 15 – General Meeting,** 7:30 PM, in person at the Villa Park VFW on St. Charles Road. Meeting upstairs. Doors open 7:00.

**May 22 – Articles are due for the June Airhorn.**

#### DOWN THE ROAD

**Second Wednesday of the Month – CCE Board Meetings,** 7:30 PM, in person at Manny's Ale House, 683 St. Charles Road, Elmhurst. This is about one half mile east of the Villa Park VFW Hall on St. Charles Road and about a quarter mile west of Route 83, on the north side of the street. If the parking lot in front of Manny's is full, there is a larger parking lot further west across side street Pick Avenue. The place we will

meet in is the room with the pool table to the right when you come in the front door. The pool table is not being used during the time we will be meeting.

**Third Wednesday of the Month – CCE General Meetings,** Villa Park VFW Post 2801, 39 East St. Charles Road, Villa Park 60181, at the eastern end of the Jewel parking lot. Meeting is upstairs in the main hall. The bar is downstairs. Meeting starts 7:30 PM. Doors open 7:00.

**June 22 – A Day on the Dixie/Spring Tour,** bring out your Corvairs and tour the historic Dixie Highway, along with a Model A club. More details to come.

**July 22–25 – CORSA International Convention,** Dayton, OH. See CORSA Communiqué for details. Hotel reservations are now open.

**Aug 4 – Illinois Railway Museum Vintage Transport Extravaganza,** Union, Illinois, 8 AM – 5 PM. CCE members work the vintage car gate for free museum entrance tickets, special CCE club parking. More information to follow.

**Aug 18 – CCE Picnic,** Pattawatomie Park River Pavilion, St. Charles, IL.

**Aug 25 – Geneva Concours d'Elegance,** Geneva, IL, 10 AM – 4 PM, on the streets of Geneva, around Third Ave. No Corvairs this year, but many classic cars rarely seen in our area.

#### OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

*Please let us know about any other events that you think should be listed here.*

**June 2 – Big Rock Classic Car Show,** Plowman's Park, Big Rock, IL. Featuring orphan cars. More information to come.

**July 11–13 – Detroit Area Corvair Club Homecoming,** Ann Arbor, MI, calling all Corvairs to come home to where they were made (Willow Run). Wyndom Garden Hotel. Rally, people's choice car show, swap meets (indoor and outdoor), free breakfast, free lunch, free beer. More information to follow.

#### ALERTS AND REMINDERS



For alerts and reminders of these events and more, e-mail your name and e-mail address(es) to which you want the alerts sent, to [CCE.Corvair@gmail.com](mailto:CCE.Corvair@gmail.com), and specify "Alerts and Reminders" or "Alerts Only." Also, if you want text messages to your cell phone, include your phone number and your carrier, and whether you want "Alerts and Reminders" or "Alerts Only".



established 1968

**The monthly publication of CCE.** Deadline for contributions is the 4th Wednesday of the month preceding the issue month. All articles and advertising should be mailed to the *Airhorn* Editor, Charley Biddle. Items can be e-mailed or sent direct mail. The *Airhorn* is mailed as a benefit of membership of CCE, and is also sent to most chapters of CORSA. All material is subject to editing.

**Classified Advertising:** Classified ads are considered any ad selling a car or car part. Classified ads are free to members of CCE. Deadline is the 4th Wednesday of the month preceding the issue month. Nonmembers may submit classified ads for a \$5 fee.

**Commercial Advertising:** Commercial ads are defined as those representing a business or commercial enterprise. Current circulation of the *Airhorn* is over 200 copies per month. There is a fee for all commercial ads. It's low rates make it an excellent buy for the alert commercial advertiser. Rates are \$30 for a full page, \$20 for a half page and \$10 for a quarter page. All advertising rates are quoted for camera ready or typeable copy only. Any production charges (including screening of photographs, special art, etc.) will be billed at cost. The Editor reserves the right to determine what is commercial advertising.

**Original Articles:** The *Airhorn* prides itself on publishing original material from a variety of contributors. This material represents a great deal of work by the authors, and therefore the *Airhorn* reserves all reproduction rights with the following exception: any material may be reproduced or reprinted by CORSA or any CORSA chapter only for nonprofit purposes benefiting Corvair enthusiasts. Any such reproduction must credit both the author and the *Airhorn*. Rights for any other use must be requested in writing from the Editor.

**CCE Meetings:** Meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month at the Villa Park VFW, Post 2801, 39 E. St. Charles Road, Villa Park, Illinois 60181 (0.7 miles west of Route 83). Doors open at 7:00 PM; meetings begin at 7:30.

**Membership:** CCE offers Individual (\$30/year) or Family (\$32/year) memberships with digital newsletters and printed and mailed newsletters for an additional \$36/year Distribution Fee. All are payable to Chicagoland Corvair Enthusiasts.

**CCE Website:** [www.ccecorvair.com](http://www.ccecorvair.com)

**CCE Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/Chicagoland-Corvair-Enthusiasts-CCE-106483452772030](https://www.facebook.com/Chicagoland-Corvair-Enthusiasts-CCE-106483452772030)

(or search on "facebook chicagoland corvair enthusiasts")

**CCE Instagram:** [www.instagram.com/chicagocorvairclub](https://www.instagram.com/chicagocorvairclub)

**Director/President:** Kirk Parro, 2139 Hawthorne Road, Homewood, IL 60430, (708) 798-4525 (home), (708) 772-0060 (cell), [kirkparro@hotmail.com](mailto:kirkparro@hotmail.com)

**Director/VP:** Mike McGowan, 0S173 Route 53, Lombard, IL 60148, (630) 629-4392 (cell), [mcvair@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mcvair@sbcglobal.net)

**Director/Treasurer:** Mike Charewicz, 936 Clark Lane, Des Plaines, IL 60018, (847) 331-9995 (cell), [mike@charewicz.com](mailto:mike@charewicz.com)

**Director/Secretary:** Kevin Kloker, 435 W. Falkirk Place, Palatine, IL 60074, (847) 341-0611, [kloker@comcast.net](mailto:kloker@comcast.net)

**Director at Large:** Paul Polster, 25 Beacon Bay, Lakemoor, IL 0051, (847) 912-1610 (cell), [paulnpepe@gmail.com](mailto:paulnpepe@gmail.com)

**Airhorn Editor:** Charley Biddle, 208 S. Caryl, Northlake, IL 60164, (708) 344-2679, (630) 215-5817 (cell), [CLBiddle@comcast.net](mailto:CLBiddle@comcast.net)

**Membership Chair:** Charley Biddle, 208 S. Caryl, Northlake, IL 60164, (708) 344-2679, (630) 215-5817 (cell), [CLBiddle@comcast.net](mailto:CLBiddle@comcast.net)

**Activities Coordinator:** Lin Parro, 2139 Hawthorne Road, Homewood, IL 60430, (708) 798-4525 (home), (708) 932-9966 (cell), [LindaParro@gmail.com](mailto:LindaParro@gmail.com)

**Webmaster:** Mark Hardy, 1020 Aurora Ave., Aurora, IL 60505, (630) 815-2964, [MarkDHardy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:MarkDHardy@sbcglobal.net)

**Social Media:** Shelly Claypool, 21403 S. 89th Ave, Frankfort, IL 60423, (779-254-3244 (cdll), [shells1424@gmail.com](mailto:shells1424@gmail.com)

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Address correction requested

FIRST CLASS MAIL

208 South Caryl, Northlake, IL 60164

