



THE *Aircooler*

DETROIT AREA CORVAIR CLUB

ESTABLISHED 1974

Volume 4, Issue 12

YOUR HOLIDAY AIRCOOLER EDITION.

December 2024

**From The Dashboard of Your DACC President,
Tom Murray guitar_mechanic@yahoo.com**

Hi campers,

It's getting cooler outside; we've had some frost. People are getting ready for the holiday season and are turning their attention indoors. The nicer Corvairs are being prepped for winter, but not Chucky!

The old Chucky is getting a new alternator, so hopefully I can drive him all winter. I had charging for a hot minute with the new wiring, but it looks like a new voltage regulator is the order of the day. Cross your fingers, knock wood, sacrifice a chicken.... you get the point.

Last Saturday at the take apart party in Swartz Creek, I was able to get a couple modified valve covers to make racers out of. I still have plenty of time before Homecoming. So, with that thinking, I'll probably be building it three days beforehand.

I'm excited that the **Christmas** party is coming up! Please, please, please bring your contributions to Haven House! It's a very worthy cause and we can all use a little "good" right now.

Until I see you next, be safe and happy Corvairing! ■



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

Detroit Area Corvair Club Annual Christmas Party December 2, 2024

With Christmas approaching once again, faster than we realize, we take a moment to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas and what Christmas meant to us growing up. The DACC has established a proud tradition and legacy steeped in the true meaning of Christmas. Haven House provides a safe place for the unfortunate people in battered and abusive relationships. The DACC, in cooperation with Haven, attempts to help the innocent victims, the children, of these relationships. We are not alone in this effort as many organizations see the reflection of the true meaning of Christmas in this effort.

Through Haven House, new unwrapped gifts are organized by size and age and offered to their guardians on a pre-qualified basis.

Your DACC will make a donation, and the 300 Bowl has joined us as well. **Come to the Christmas Party and bring an unwrapped gift, gift card or donation which we will deliver to Haven.** No administrative costs and no outside influences, just the true spirit of Christmas giving.

- Judy O'Leary ■



24-HR Crisis & Support **248-334-1274**

Toll-Free Crisis Line **877-922-1274**

TTY Line **248-972-2540**

HAVEN's Business Number **248-334-1284**

From the Rear Deck of the DACC VP, Bill Vellner
mr.bill0728@att.net (In charge of vice, naturally)

Valve Cover Racers - Part 1

Before starting on your racer and making it go fast, some theory is needed. This may seem a little boring and dry, but it is important if you want a winning racer. A valve cover racer has two main forces acting on it: gravity and friction. Even at its fastest, aerodynamics normally don't play a significant role. Gravity is limited by the weight of the racer. The rules specify a maximum weight of 4 1/2 pounds, so the main effort is to reduce friction as much as possible. Experience has shown that unshielded ball bearings combined with CDs or DVDs make the best wheels and bearings. Just make sure that the grease that may be in the bearings has been washed away and a light oil is used for lubrication. There is one other consideration to consider that is determined by the design of the starting system. Rods are placed to keep the racers at the start and are dropped to release the racers. Those rods are 3" high and the sooner your racer clears those rods, the sooner it will start to roll. A racer that has a lower clearance just under 3" has an advantage over a racer with a lower clearance. It may seem like a small thing at the start, but the advantage becomes greater even before the finish line. The slope of the track also offers another design consideration. About 3/4 of the way down, the slope of the track decreases significantly. If the majority of the racer's ballast (to reach 4 1/2 pounds, you WILL need ballast) is placed at the rear of the racer, the greater slope of the track will push the racer longer than if the ballast is placed further forward. Remember, you want gravity working for you as much as possible. This also keeps the racer in the "spirit" of the Corvair in that the weight is greater at the rear. Needless to say, you want your wheels mounted so that the racer will track as straight as possible. We will cover techniques for that in a later part. Even if your wheels are aligned perfectly, minor irregularities in the track will cause it to scrape against the barriers on either side. This is where reducing friction comes into play again. By mounting rods at each corner of the racer that are slightly outboard of the wheels and extend down to about 1/2" above the bottom of the wheels with a ball bearing on the bottom of each rod, any contact will be rolling friction and thus will be very low. This covers the theory and design considerations for a valve cover racer. In later articles, we will look at various construction technique suggestions and possible variations. All of the above has nothing to do with how you decorate your racer, so there are no limits there as long as you don't mount sails that might actually slow things down. LOL Until next month, this is your Vice President (In charge of vice) ;) signing off. ■

Did you know?

December's [flower](#) is the [Narcissus](#). Its [birthstone](#) is the [turquoise](#).

Activities by Raven Hand

Hello all, Haven is excited and appreciative of our yearly donation at [Christmas](#), as always **bedding, toys, unopened and unwrapped, pet food and gift cards Meijer and Kroger preferred (due to gas stations) as well as clothes, food and toys.** Also I toured the Pontiac Transportation museum and I think instead of a monthly meeting or private rental I am going to plan a March [Saturday](#) Breakfast and museum tour as the museum is still under development (still very cool) date will be announced later on . See you all in December * Raven ■

11/17/24 Treasury Report 10/17/24

By Carol Hairsine

Balance \$8283.84

Income : Membership \$150.00 50/50 \$145.00

Expenses: Newsletter \$205.05 50/50 Payout \$ 72.00

Attendance \$10.00 Dolly for Club Trailer \$36.47

Balance 11/17/24 \$8255.32 ■

SAVE THE DATE

Homecoming will be on July 10-13 2025. Wyndham Garden Ann Arbor 2900 Jackson Rd. Ann Arbor, MI 734-665- 4444 Group code if calling in will be Corvair Club 2025. Code if booking online (PUT group code in before dates or it won't discount rooms) 070925COR Cost for rooms start at \$114. Book early to secure your room. It will be a great event this year. ■

Did you know?

December always begins on the same day of the week as September and ends on the same day of the week as April.

Like us on Facebook

DACC OFFICERS

President	Tom Murray
Ph. 313-510-7570	guitar_mechanic@yahoo.com
Vice President	Bill Vellner
Ph.	mr.bill0728@att.net
Membership	Lori Komora
Ph. (734) 223-8943	Lkomora1@yahoo.com
Editor	Adam Morenski
Ph. 586-354-5626	amorenski7636@wowway.com
Treasurer	Carol Hairsine
6374 22 Mi. Rd. Shelby Township, MI. 48317	
Ph. 586-321-9952	hairsine@sbcglobal.net
Secretary	Ken Heberling
Ph. 248-709-3622	kenheberling@comcast.net
Activities	Raven Hand
Ph.	Rhand1499@yahoo.com
Webmaster	John Allesee

Swap & Sell

Hello,

This is Florence Wicklund. My husband, Noel, was a member of a Corvair club many years ago. He had a Corvair convertible for several years.

We have 2 manuals' here that are of no use to me. One, 1961, is quite large. The other, 1962, is smaller. Both are in good shape. I have no idea what they are worth, but someone might be interested in them. Would you please have them contact me.

Wicklundf@hotmail.com

Thank you,
Florence Wicklund ■



1993 Camaro Berlinetta wheels (14 X7) Tires pictured are about 15 years old and should be considered rollers only.
\$250.00 OBO
Call Bill @ (313) 720- 9101

DACC Membership Report for the DECEMBER 2024 AIRCOOLER

Submitted November 17, 2024 by Lori Komora

Welcome to our new members: Brian McAlpine and John Wittmann

Thanks for keeping your membership up to date:

Ian Smith, Dave Munaco, Tom/Jamie Tennant, Shane Thomas and Harold Freidman

We have 144 paid members and are mailing 2 complementary newsletters to Clark's and the Ypsilanti Museum. If you can't make it to the meeting or Homecoming, send a **check for \$20.00** payable to **Detroit Area Corvair Club** to: Lori Komora – DACC. Address: 38143 Richland St., Livonia, MI 48150

****A NOTE ABOUT DUES RENEWAL DATES.**

Everyone's due date is in June/July. If you haven't renewed by the August meeting you will be dropped in September.

Questions about membership, change of address, email info can be sent to Lori Komora at Lkomora1@yahoo.com (734) 223-8943 and leave a message.

We have an **email blast list** to notify members of quickie tours or last-minute changes. If you would like to be on this list please send me your email address (and/or if it has changed) so we can keep this list up to date. ■



Remembering the past ... DACC Picnics? Were you there? Ruthie and I arrived in Florida Tuesday, October 26, and the first thing we ran across was a Central Florida Corvair Club note; they were having a Picnic on Saturday, November the 2nd... at a park ... Only 1½ hour drive! Bring a dish to pass and BYOB (no alcohol) and the Club will supply the burgers and



dogs. ... Shall we? ... Yes, lets ... Off we go! We will have to buy a dish to pass ... Will we know anybody there? ... Will anybody there know us??? Turn right here into the park ... Oh, there they are, right over there! WOW, nice park and look at that pavilion ... and a familiar face! Rob Amsler came to the Homecoming this year and helped to serve food! And Laura and Bill Fenemore from Canada and Sarah Bruce former CORSA Prez who introduced us to Titus Stewart, current CORSA Prez! And a list of new friends as long as my arm.



Lunch is served ... What a spread! Ruthie, our DACC Hospitality Hostess, was first in line! Oh, WOW, they REALLY know how to have a first-class picnic, and we ate WELL.

Total; 80+ people, 25 cars, and a few parts vendors on a mild, sunny day ... What a great group!

Been there, done that, got the 'T' shirt 😊 ■



Have a safe and happy holiday season from the DACC Board.

DACC November 2024 Meeting Minutes

There were no new attendees to the meeting this month. Membership: Lori gave the update that there were 36 names dropped from the membership roster due to lack of payment. There are a total of 142 paid members at this time.

Christmas party: For those planning to participate in the gift exchange game, bring a \$10 to \$15 wrapped gift.

For the Haven House donations bring unwrapped items. Haven House items can include gift cards, games (for 2 – 3 players), pet donations, etc. Lori proposed \$500 donation from DACC to Haven House. Adam seconded the motion. There was one "nay" citing that DACC Homecoming did not show a profit. Motion passed.

The Dayton club provided a valve cover plaque along with a letter as a thank you for the use of our DACC Valve Cover Racetrack for their event in July. They will store the track over the winter and bring it back in July for next year's Homecoming.

Facebook Proposal: A proposal was made to offer DACC membership for \$10 (email only Aircooler) to try to increase membership. The Facebook page has 1.6K members so this may be a good way to get additional, younger, membership for DACC. Board approved proposal. This has been posted on Facebook with at least 1 new member joining so far.

Treasury report: Balance as of November 4th is \$8078.79. This does not include calendar costs that still need to be submitted. Carol had copies of our Non-Profit statement if anyone needs proof to get donations for next year's Homecoming.

Aircooler: Hard copies of the Aircooler were sent out. If you are not receiving an email version of the Aircooler, please see Lori to ensure you are on the list. Adam needs articles as usual.

Activities: Raven is trying to get a visit set up at the Pontiac Transportation Museum. She's targeting February of 2025.

Chris Hand Racing Update: Chris shared that he was winner of the Waterford E-Production Class Championship for 2024. He was 5th place in the top 10 for all racers at Waterford as well.

Mileage Challenge: Ethan Force was the winner of the mileage challenge with 5,381 miles for the year. Ken Heberling had 3,246, Don Scharich had 2,789, and Tom Murray had 2,194.

Swap & Sell: Check the Aircooler for details. Time Duve had various tools for sale, Body Service Manual, a Boot Dryer, and had an old Mallory High Energy Transistor Ignition. Ethan Force has 63 windshield, and there are DACC license plates for sale.

Attendance: There were 54 people in attendance. The \$10 attendance was won by Tod Miller. The picture on the Marquee was won by Janice Borgne (need to get your picture to Mike Anstine).

Cars: I counted 7 Corvairs at the meeting.

50/50: A total of \$145 was taken in for 50/50. \$72 was won by Elaine Roerink.

Ken Heberling – Secretary ■

Don't forget to bring a \$5 bill for the 50/50 raffle.

Let's Talk Tires

Conventional wisdom says you shouldn't use tires that are more than 5 years old. Or is it 7 years? Or more? Or less?? Or is it that the people with wisdom also want to sell you new tires? Finding new to the market tires in a 13" size has been somewhat difficult in the past. Late model guys with a 5-bolt pattern can just upgrade their wheel size to 14" or 15" or bigger if desired and find more choices for tire purchases. But let's look at what is available currently for us early folks with 13" wheels and only a 4-bolt pattern.

There are three choices in the 13" category that I will cover here: 175/80R13, 185/70R13 and 185/80R13. These are the road-going choices that I could find. Trailer tires may be more plentiful in 13", but they are not good for running on the street. If the tire has a "T" in the description stay away.

Where can you find 13" tires to buy? Of course, the Internet has expanded the availability a bunch. I have made several purchases from sites like SimpleTire.com and PriorityTire.com. You can also order tires from Amazon. Don't forget Tire Rack and even Walmart has an on-line presence where you can order from them and have the tires shipped to a local store for mounting and such. Brands and price? Most of the traditional tire manufacturers have given up on the 13" market. So, any tires that you can find in 13" will be made offshore.



Maxxis, Milestar and Kuhmo are three examples. The Maxxis MA-1 185/80R13 is a popular choice. These are made in Thailand and sometimes the freshest batch are still on a container ship when the domestic warehouses run out. Be patient. So far, they seem to come back into availability for us. As I write this article and check prices the Milestar 175/80R13 is the price leader at \$77.95 a tire. The Kuhmo 185/70R13 (blackwall) is available at many places for the same price of \$86 per tire. Tire Rack, Simple Tire, Priority Tire, Walmart and locally at Discount Tire all sell them for the same money. Since most of these Internet sellers ship for free that isn't an issue.



Continued on page 5

CHRISTMAS PARTY

On [December 2nd](#) we will have our [Christmas](#) party at the 300 Bowl in Waterford. Come in your [Christmas](#) attire and with your [Christmas](#) cheer to celebrate a wonderful year that we've all had. As in years past, we will be collecting unwrapped gifts/gift cards, to give to the less fortunate at the Haven House.

WOW JUST WOW!

We have the best club ever. We do things and think nothing of it! When people ask for help with something, we just rise to the occasion and get it done. When the Dayton Corvair club was approached about putting on national and only had a year to get it together, they asked for help in different ways. Being I live four hours away, I attended many of their meetings via zoom helped out where I could with ideas or things that we have done whether they worked or didn't work for us. One of them getting they were talking about the valve cover race and where were they going to get a track for it? I offered the DACC track and discussed how to get it down to them. We always have a great group of people from Ohio who come to homecoming every year so in 2023 a few of the men helped assemble and disassemble the track to see how it worked then in 24 they came again to get a refresher and make sure it was doable, they transported the track down to Ohio for the event that was a week and a half later. Our club was recognized at the event when the valve cover race was going on. They pulled off a terrific event.

Then came our November meeting night and in the mail that day I received a mysterious package. Lo and behold I was shocked when I opened it and saw this beautiful valve cover plaque from the Dayton Corvair club with recognition of our club for the use of the track.



Our club helps out in many different ways, whether it is the garage squad, helping out keeping Corvairs on the road or helping out Haven House with gifts/gift cards at [Christmas](#) time! I feel very blessed being a part of this terrific group of people. Looking forward to a wonderful upcoming year with all of you.

Lori Komora ■

But we do like to shop locally, right? Finally, the Maxxis MA-1 185/80R13 whitewall tire shows up at several price points. And the price seems to move around as well. From \$110.90 at Speedy Tire.com to \$122.97 at Walmart to \$123.97 at Simple Tire up to \$134.94 at Priority Tire.



So, should you take a chance on old tires? Consider that if you are cruising around in your Corvair and have a tire failure the cost to get back on the road could far exceed the money spent on newer, safer tires. Hoping the scraps of the failed tire didn't rip off a portion of your quarter panel or worse projected you into another lane and/or another motorist. If you don't have a plan like AAA or Hagerty Driver's Club the tow bill (since your spare tire is older and flatter than the newly failed one) would add to your grief.

The bottom line to this article is, don't get scared and park your waterless wonder cause your tires are too old. Get ready for next season's Corvair fun with a fresh set of rubber and a can-do attitude. And no, I am not a tire salesman, but I do seem to have a stack of nice but out-of-date tires in the Caveman Garage that I don't know what to do with... ■

Peter Koehler <pkoehler01@gmail.com>



I drove the most miles in 2024 with a total of 5,381 in my 1966 110hp PG Monza coupe.
Ethan Force



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www.corvair.com

Go to the DACC Facebook page.



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



**The DACC
December
Xmas party /
meeting is
on Monday,
the 2nd.
Please arrive
at 6pm
At the 300
Bowl in
Waterford.**

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

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Hours and Ticket Information

- Chrome & Ice™ 2025 will be open to the public Friday, February 7th from 12PM to 8PM.
- Saturday, February 8th from 10AM to 7PM
- Sunday, February 9th from 10AM to 3PM.
- Awards ceremony starts at 2:30PM on Sunday, February 9th.

GENERAL ADMISSION tickets are \$10 for adults, and \$7 for youth, ages 12-17. Children under 12 are free.

Parking at arena is \$5 CASH at the gates

Other Corvair club newsletter links

<http://www.corvair.org/chapters/chapter627/newsltr/Nov24PCC.pdf>

<http://www.vv.corvair.org/pipermail/chapters/attachments/20241027/774ba9e0/attachment.pdf>

<http://www.vv.corvair.org/pipermail/chapters/attachments/20241029/4aa30e59/attachment.pdf>

<https://tinyurl.com/ycyyn3dw>

<http://www.vv.corvair.org/pipermail/chapters/attachments/20241030/c33fe007/attachment.pdf>

<http://www.vv.corvair.org/pipermail/chapters/attachments/20241101/55a31a70/attachment.pdf>

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

<http://www.vv.corvair.org/pipermail/chapters/attachments/20241106/b5f03533/attachment.pdf>

<http://www.vv.corvair.org/pipermail/chapters/attachments/20241104/28198a32/attachment.pdf>

<http://www.vv.corvair.org/pipermail/chapters/attachments/20241108/f81583f4/attachment.pdf>

<http://www.vv.corvair.org/pipermail/chapters/attachments/20241109/57dc472b/attachment.pdf>

<http://www.vv.corvair.org/pipermail/chapters/attachments/20241108/cc0551cb/attachment.pdf>

<http://www.vv.corvair.org/pipermail/chapters/attachments/20241114/6dc83d16/attachment.pdf>

<http://www.vv.corvair.org/pipermail/chapters/attachments/20241114/c6b6db6d/attachment.pdf>

<https://www.daytoncorvairclub.com/newsletters>

<http://www.vv.corvair.org/pipermail/chapters/attachments/20241121/e608a3fe/attachment.doc>

<https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:VA6C2:37e4abf8-8758-48d7-80d8-8c4a>