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A CORSA CHAPTER

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December 18 CCE Meeting at Villa Park VFW at 7:00!

The December 18 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 6:30 PM. **Meeting starts at 7:00 PM.** All members are welcome. **Room closes at 9:30, with further socialization down stairs in the bar until 11:00.**

January 8 CCE Board of Directors Meeting at Manny's Ale House

The January 8 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

Paul Polster

Greetings, everyone. First, I wish to give a sincere thank you to all of our CCE members for voting for the current board members. For those who of you who are not familiar with the procedure for selecting who serves in what position, the newly elected, as well as re-elected board members decide where each will serve. I believe in can speak on behalf of my fellow board members and say that we as your board will do our best to serve the CCE and it's people to the best of our abilities.

Thank you to all who attended our garage squad held at the infamous Vair Shop on November 16th. I counted around 30 people attending, to which Larry Claypool stated that this garage squad was the most attended one he has seen. Thank you to Jim McDonald and Kirk Parro for running the audio and video as well as to Lin Parro and Shelly Claypool for preparing the meal.

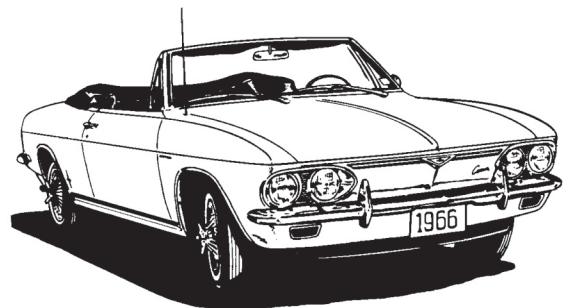
My 1966 Monza convertible was used to demonstrate the procedure of how to install an electric fuel pump and the associated installation of the block off plate in the mechanical fuel pump, as well as the wiring work needed to power up the electric fuel pump. The headlights were running orange when turned on. Larry taught us to check the grounding of the

headlight buckets to the body of the car in order to return them to normal function.

My 1965 Greenbrier has passed to new ownership as I have too many irons in the fire at this time. The good news is the gentleman I sold it to might be joining CCE, I stay in touch in him and will invite him to the next general membership meeting.

Just a reminder, the annual Christmas party will once again be held at Kevin Kloker's house in Palatine on Saturday, December 14th starting at 6 PM. Contact Lin Parro about bringing a dish, or for any suggestions. Please be careful out there in your holiday season travels, shopping, office parties etc etc.

We will see all of you at the next General membership meeting on Wednesday, December 18th at the VFW hall in Villa Park, starting at 7 PM. As always, when in doubt "Details are in the *Airhorn*".



From the Director

Vice President Jeff Wentz

"Back in the Saddle Again..."

New year, new Board. Now, after being off the Board for a year, I wanted to revisit some of the significant accomplishments of the past year (which I hope were not due to my absence...). The main source of our income, dues, was adjusted, the club finances were put in order (thanks to Mike Charewicz), and we worked to lower the cost of postage and printing by encouraging electronic delivery and buying a new printer. As a result, we were able to concentrate more on, as Kirk put last month, "the fun stuff". And we did have fun. We had some excellent programs, parties, picnics and tours, had great turnout for Garage Squad projects/demonstrations, participated in a greater number of cruise nights and car shows, got some newer members on the Board, and increased our cooperation with other clubs.

I hope this will continue into the coming year. But the Board cannot do this alone. We need members to step up and provide **your** ideas for programs, activities, projects, technical demonstrations, tours, places to visit, other clubs to contact, whatever. Don't be afraid to voice ideas because you think you'll get stuck with managing whatever you propose (although that would be very nice...) Let one of the Board members know and we'll work to get it done with the resources we have.

My personal resolution for the year is to get up to speed on our Facebook presence. I have been almost totally inactive on Facebook, and given it's potential, I need to rectify that. I also plan to develop some relationship with the Illinois Office of Tourism and see how they may help us find interesting places, tours, drives, facilities, groups and events for future activities. I'll also make some inquiries with the tourism departments in Wisconsin, Indiana and Michigan. Hopefully we can explore some new venues. Adventures await!



From the Editor

Charley Biddle

Rambling from you Humble Editor—

Ah, Relaxation: Sort of. Now that the board of directors elections are over and the 2025 membership dues renewals have been sent out, I can sort of relax. The December and January *Airhorns* will be relatively normal. The February *Airhorn* will require some work, since the results of the January What's It Contest will be printed in that issue. Now it is back to the usual grind of finding tech articles, writing software and avoiding yard work and fixing my Corvair (because it is too cold out).

Thought: "Anti-intellectualism has been a constant thread winding its way through our political and cultural life, nurtured by the false notion that democracy means that, 'My ignorance is just as good as your knowledge'" — Isaac Asimov

Thought: "Moving Forward with Strength: No more begging, No more asking people to stay, No more forcing things. Don't waste your time trying to keep people who don't

see your worth." — Stitch Lover's Facebook

Thought: "I just burned 1,200 calories. I forgot the pizza in the oven." — Anonymous

Board Meeting Minutes

Kevin Kloker

Date: Nov. 13, 2024

Location: Manny's Ale House, Elmhurst, IL

Start time: 7:17 PM

Roll call: Board members present:

President—Kirk Parro, **Vice President**—Mike McGowan, **Treasurer**—absent, **Secretary**—Kevin Kloker, **Director at Large**—Paul Polster. **Absent**—Mike Charewicz.

New Board Members—John DiProva, Lin Parro and Jeff Wentz.

Committee Heads Present: *Airhorn* Editor and **Membership**—Charley Biddle, **Activities**—Lin Parro, **Librarian**—absent.

Other Members Present: none.

1. Welcome from Kirk Parro, Presiding Board member.

Kirk opened the meeting and excused the retiring board members and guests so the new board members could discuss their new roles.

The new board members selected the following roles:

President: Paul Polster

Vice President: Jeff Wentz

Treasurer: Kevin Kloker

Secretary: John DiProva

Director at Large: Lin Parro

2. Treasurer's Report – Mike Charewicz

Mike arrived in time to share the October Treasurer's Report is in the November *Airhorn*. Mike prepared a packet to transfer the financial records to the new Treasurer. Three items need to be addressed by the new Treasurer:

- Moving our business from Fifth Third Bank because of poor service and policies.
- Our five-month CD automatically renews at the bank's lowest interest rate in January 2025. We want to renew it at a higher rate.
- CCE financial records are kept in Mike's personal copy of QuickBooks. This may also need to be changed in the future.

3. Airhorn Report – Charley Biddle

Charley prepared a 12-page *Airhorn* with a Christmas Party flyer. 2025 Membership Renewal forms are being mailed with the printed *Airhorns*, and also mailed to those members who receive PDF *Airhorns* because some members do not have printers. Charley mailed 27 printed *Airhorns* and emailed 98 PDF *Airhorns*.

4. Membership Report – Charley Biddle

Charley improved the 2025 Membership Renewal form, and it is ready to go. We have a new member Liam Coyne, bringing us to 137 members. Next month we will take Mike Collins off our member list. We have 51 individual, 68 family, 7 honorary, and 11 complementary members.

5. Special Reports or Announcements

Library – Diane Johnson reports the extra Corvair parked in

their garage has moved out, allowing easier access to the CCE library.

6. Activities – Lin Parro

- November 20 is our Turkey Raffle and 50/50 VFW Raffle. CCE donates our 50% portion to the VFW for their Great Lakes Recruits Thanksgiving dinner. The VFW Flag Line welcome for the new naval recruits is Thanksgiving Day morning, Nov 28. Please come by 8:30 am if you can participate.
- Saturday December 14 is our CCE Christmas Party at Kevin Kloker's house, starting at 6 PM. Signup will be at the November general meeting. Bring potluck dishes to share and coordinate with Lin about what you are bringing. The setup will be like last year, with additional seating in the basement. Lin is thinking about decorations, pictures, songs, and games.
- December 18 is our general meeting to socialize and share Christmas cheer!
- 2025 meetings are in planning. Jan is our "What's It Contest," Feb is our annual "Sweets Auction," and March is our "Chili Cook-Off."

6. Old Business

None.

7. New Business

- Diane Johnson received a new VFW contract for 2025. The good news is they are not raising our \$200 monthly rate. Our contracted event time is 6:30 – 9:30 PM including setup and cleanup, this is the same as previous years. They are keeping Ray Johnson as the VFW representative to close the room after our meeting. We cannot bring in any food, except in February (Sweets Auction), March (Chili Cook-Off), and September (Awards Night). The new Board voted to approve the 2025 VFW contract. Diane Johnson will sign the contract as our VFW liaison.
- This Saturday Nov. 16 at 9 am will be a "Garage Squad" gathering at Larry Claypool's "Vair Shop" to install an in-tank electric fuel pump in Paul Polster's 1966 Monza convertible. And repair his 140 HP throttle linkage. Dress for the weather and bring a lawn chair.

8. Adjournment

Motion by: Jeff Wentz, Seconded by: John DiProva, Time: 8:28 PM

General Meeting Minutes

John DiProva

Date: November 20th, 2024

Location: Villa Park VFW Hall

Start Time: 7:10 PM

President Kirk Parro opened the meeting and formally introduced our new CCE President Paul Polster.

- **President** Paul Polster introduced the rest of our new board members:
- **Vice President:** Jeff Wentz
- **Treasurer:** Kevin Kloker
- **Secretary:** John DiProva
- **Director at Large:** Lin Parro

1. Roll Call:

All new board members were present at meeting start.

Committee heads all present at meeting start:
Airhorn Editor/Membership Chair–Charley Biddle,
Activities Coordinator–Lin Parro, **Social Media**–Shelly Claypool, **Librarian**–Diane Johnson.

2. Call to Order and Welcome from Presiding board member:

Paul welcomed everyone, no new attendees present.

3. Treasurer's Report: Kevin Kloker

Kevin reported they are still working to get full permissions [from the bank] to access all [account] information. See October *Airhorn* for financial statement.

4. Airhorn Report: Charley Biddle

Lyle Rigdon's Corvair sold to someone in Nebraska.

5. Membership Report: Charley Biddle

- We have 136 members.
- Charley mailed out membership renewal forms.
- Charley is working on the updated membership directory.

6. CORSA News: Larry Claypool

Larry and Shelly met with the local club representatives and viewed the site. Dates and hotel information are in the works. Will update at next meeting.

7. Library Report: Diane Johnson

We have a wonderful library located at the Johnson's house. Please check the CCE website for the manuals and videos listings. It is open to all members, call for an appointment to visit.

The library has multiple copies of older *Airhorns*. Diane will bring them in to future meetings to give away to interested members. Diane noted there is easier access to the filing cabinets due to the electric conversion Corvair is gone.

8. Social Media: Shelly Claypool

Shelly thanked everyone who attended the Garage Squad event at the Vair Shop. It was a great turnout and lunch was delicious (thank you Lin Parro) there are pictures on the Facebook page and Jim [MacDonald] will make a YouTube video. Paul thanked Larry for the job well done. Matt Wetzel visited Larry and Shelly's house the Wednesday before the event. Please check out Matt's offroad recovery on YouTube! Check out his Corvairs [YouTube Matt's Offroad Recovery].

9. Activities Report: Lin Parro

- Turkey raffle winners: Doreen Prucha, Mike McGowan and Charley Biddle.
- The 50/50 raffle brought in \$130.00. Ann Wentz won \$65 and the CCE portion was \$65. Ann donated her portion back to CCE as a donation to the VFW. Special thanks to Ann Wentz. CCE'S winning portion of the 50/50 raffle will also be donated to the VFW, for their Thanksgiving Dinner they provide to recruits from the Great Lakes Naval Station.
- Thursday 11/28/24 – Thanksgiving Day VFW flag line 8:30 AM. Flags will be provided by the VFW.
- 12/11/24 – Board meeting at Manny's Ale House.
- 12/14/24 – CCE Christmas party at Kevin Kloker's house, See flyer included with the November *Airhorn*.
- 12/18/24 – General meeting at the VFW. There will

be quick business followed by socializing and wishing good cheer.

10. Old Business:

No old business to report.

11. New Business:

Diane Johnson, who is the club liaison for the VFW hall, reported she was able to get the VFW to hold the pricing for 2025. She gave copies of the contract to board members.

Oakbrook Terrace has loaned the large American flag to the VFW, which is on display in the upstairs meeting room.

12. Corvair Parts:

- Lou Zanon mentioned a transmission shop in Chicago has Corvair parts that the owner would like to get rid of, ASAP. I believe the shop is A & R Automatic Transmissions, 5033 W. Belmont Ave. More details to come. Note there about a pickup or van size load etc.
- Al Morgan has some Corvair parts, more details to come.
- Stanchions: Al Short has some of the old display stanchions that the club used to use at car shows. These are currently outside and the club will work on getting these out of the elements until it can be determined what to do with them.

13. Adjourn:

Motion by Lou Zanon, seconded by Fred Castro, time: 8:15 PM

Treasurer's Report

Kevin Kloker

11/01/2024 – 11/30/2024

Fifth Third Bank Checking Account

	Debit	Credit	Balance
11/01 Beginning Balance			3,121.21
11/14 2025 Dues		92.00	
11/21 Turkey Raffle gift cards	75.00		
11/26 VFW Rent	200.00		

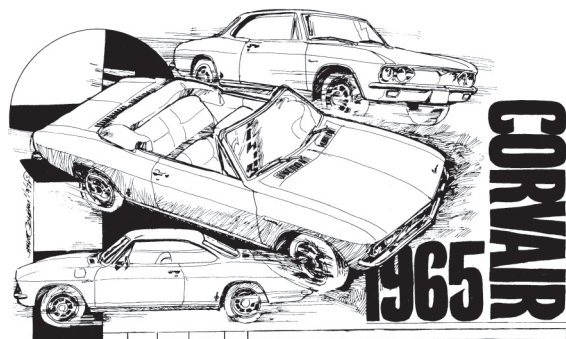
11/30 Ending Balance **2,938.21**

Savings Account, Five Month CD matures 1/25/2025

	Debit	Credit	Balance
11/01 Beginning Balance			10,648.81
11/24 Interest		39.76	

11/30 Ending Balance **10,688.57**

11/30 Total All Accounts **13,626.78**



Membership Report

Charley Biddle

New Members:

(none)

Membership Renewals: As of this writing, I have received 41 membership renewals. I am surprised at the response. I sent out physical printed membership renewal forms to all members in November. Members who received their copies of the *Airhorn* received their renewal forms along with the *Airhorn*. Members who received their copies of the *Airhorn* as emailed PDFs received their renewal forms as postal mailings. Two memberships came thru without dues checks, but with promises of the checks forthcoming.

I'd like to remind members that they have until the end of March to renew dues for dues year 2025. If I don't have the 2025 dues by the time I send out the April *Airhorn*, such members will not receive their April *Airhorns* and will be considered to no longer paid up members of CCE.

Birthdays for 1/1 thru 1/31 are: 1/1—Warren Butzow Jr., Eva McGuire, Susan Mensik; 1/2—Kathy Voboril; 1/4—Joseph Falbo; 1/8—Linda Szafranski; 1/12—Paul Polster, Gerry Zachman; 1/15—Fred Castro, Paul Dehnert, Brad Adcock; 1/17—Elli Hauser, Liesl Mann; 1/21—Mike Collins; 1/26—Marcia Sikora.



Anniversaries for 1/1 thru 1/31 are: 1/6—Phil & Sue Nolte; 1/18—Connie Swenson & David Kiefer.



Membership Numbers: CCE has 50 Active members, 68 Family members, 8 Honorary members

Activities and Events

Lin Parro

December

General Christmas Meeting

This meeting will be a quick business portion followed by socializing and wishing good cheer.

January 2025

General Meeting : "What's It Contest"

How well do you know Corvair parts? Well that's what this informal contest is all about-identify many parts as you can that are on display. Some parts may be obscure and some not. This contest is also informational because each part is discussed as to how the part is being used on a particular Corvair year and model. At the end, whoever has the most points wins bragging rights until next year's contest.

Sunday, January 12th, 50th Annual Swap Meet, 7 AM-1 PM

Will County Fairgrounds, 710 S West Street, Peotone, IL
Presented by Great Lakes Region Vintage Cheerolet Club of America

Car parts for all makes and models; \$7.00 donation. For more information go to oldcarswapmeet@aol.com.

February

General Meeting: Sweets Auction

This is a club fund raiser, created many years ago by a past Board President inspired by St. Valentine's Day since this month's meeting falls around February 14th. Members are encouraged to bring homemade, or purchased, dessert type items. Some members get creative and name their goods that are Corvair related such as "Oil Pan Debris" (Peanut Brittle). **Not the baking type or into sweets?—Auction items don't necessarily have to be sweet, non-edible items are also welcome to be auctioned off.** All proceeds go to CCE.

March

General Meeting: Chili Cook-Off

Another member participation event. Members bring their crock pots filled with their favorite, or experimental, chili recipe. All attending members taste and vote for their favorite chili.

There are four categories: Wimpy, Spicy, Inferno and Alternative (non-beef or non-red chili).

When the tasting is done, everyone is welcome to have a bowl of their favorite chili while the votes are being tallied. Each category has a winner and is awarded a gift card. Yes, Bean-o and Tums are on hand.

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.

Thanks everyone!

2025 CCE Board of Directors

Charley Biddle

At the October 23 Membership Meeting the ballots were counted and a new Board of Directors was elected. At the November 13 Board of Directors meeting the newly elected board met to decide who would serve in which offices on the board. The following CCE board members were determined:



Paul Polster
President



Jeff Wentz
Vice President



Kevin Kloker
Treasurer



John DiProva
Secretary



Lin Parro
Director at Large

There was an exchange of information and briefcases between the old board and the new board. They will serve until the next board of directors election in November 2025.

CORSA Convention News

CORSA Board

Breaking news:

Announcing San Luis Obispo, California is the new location of the 2025 CORSA International Convention

Due to the unexpected cancellation of our contract by the Radisson Hotel in Santa Maria, the convention host team has secured the Embassy Suites in San Luis Obispo for the same dates—May 20–23rd, 2025. San Luis Obispo is a historic town with unique shopping and many wineries in the area. Driving events will enjoy beautiful scenery along the coast and through the hills. Our new hotel offers wonderful amenities for our convention: Two room suites, free made to order breakfast, and an evening reception along with an indoor pool. It is centrally located with many restaurants and shops in the area. Additionally, more airlines and flights are available to this city. Hotel room prices are \$139 for a king and \$149 for a double suite, (prices not including taxes and fees.)

Note: Reservations previously made at the Radisson in Santa Maria will be canceled. The reservation link and information for the Embassy Suites hotel will be provided by email to members and on the CORSA Website shortly. More details about the schedule and events will be in the next Communique and posted to the website in January. Registration for the convention will open in February.

We are pleased to still be able to host the 2025 CORSA Convention, with all the events, in this beautiful area of the central coast of California. So, get those Corvairs ready for San Luis Obispo and make your travel plans. We are looking forward to seeing everyone there.

Questions? Contact the club office: (630) 403-5010 OR Contact Us at corsacluboffice@gmail.com.



Stock Is...

Larry Claypool

[This article was originally printed in the June 1987 issue of the CCE Airhorn. Larry has updated it to contain information as of 2024.]

If you've been following our look around the Corvair, the next logical step would be the back or rear end view. Since our convention is coming up shortly, I thought I'd run out of sequence a bit and talk about the classification operations check, in hopes those of you bound for the convention won't needlessly lose points.

Classification Operations Check

Operations Check is pretty self-explanatory. Judges check all the parts of your car to see that they are working. You, the owner, do the operating. A piece of cake, you say? So think many entrants who end up with deductions!

Lights: The first thing to be checked. Naturally, you know your two low beam headlamps work and the stop-lights do, too, 'cause you just drove umpteen thousand miles on them. But the less obvious stuff is what gets folks in trouble: license lamps (two on wagons and trucks), high beams, backup lights (especially on stick shifts!), and dome light that works automatically with both doors (except 500's). Cars and trucks may have other lights: glove box, hood, trunk, courtesy, ash tray, side markers, etc. These all need to work properly, too. And a bad ground—causing a light to illuminate dimly (or not at all) will get you a point off, too. So take a few minutes to ensure that all the lamps—and I do mean all—are working as per spec.

Turn Signals are a related subject. The signal must stay on once engaged, (i.e.- if you have to hold the lever down to make the signal work, it's a deduction) and cancel properly when the wheel is turned. If 4-way flashers are present, they too must work.

Horn: The horn should honk by pressing the center cap or horn ring anywhere on its surface. If you've got a car that only honks if you press the right side of the ring, you'll get caught because you will be asked to press center, left and right to be sure all positions work. Poor sound quality will also result in a deduction.

Instrument Panel: A simple case of making sure everything works. Do the temp-press and gen-fan lights come on? Is the gas gauge needle somewhere on the scale, or has a bad ground sent the needle off the end? When is the last time you saw if the lighter really did get hot and pop out? (Note: lighters that pop out and eject into the front seat do not get extra points). Should you be fortunate enough to have a clock, it better be working like, uh, clockwork. Corsas and Spydors additionally feature vacuum, tach, and temp gauges, so a dead needle on any one results in a certain deduction.

If you've installed other gauges, or other anything, for that matter, they must be working. For example, let's say you stuffed the fender full of a high-tech, tri-band, solid state automatic

power antenna, but the thing throws craps on the way to the convention and won't go up. A deduction, perhaps? Correct. Simply stated, if it's there, it must work.

Radio: Pretty obvious—the radio ought to play when turned on, and if it's an AM/FM, both bands will be checked for operation. Should you have a rear seat speaker or (gasp!) multiplex/tape player, the fader controls should make smooth transition from one speaker to another. Horrible static when adjusting volume or poor sound quality from a dried out or cracked speaker may also lead to a loss of points.

Foot Controls: The clutch pedal, if so equipped, should have 1/2" to 1" free play at the top end. No squeaking should be heard from any of the linkage when the clutch pedal is worked. Deductions for mis-adjusted brakes are far more common, however. With correct shoe-to-drum clearance, brake pedal travel should be only about 1-2" (parking brake off) with moderate pressure. Numero uno deduction, though, is the parking brake. There are 15 "clicks" of travel available from the parking brake handle. The cable should be adjusted so that by half travel, the brake should be tight enough to hold the car from moving during the "reverse test". What's that you say? The effectiveness of the parking brake will be checked by asking the operator to place the running vehicle in reverse, parking brake on, and then give enough throttle to load up the engine or clutch to make sure the car won't move. So it's pretty hard to 'fake' how much travel the parking brake handle *really* has.

All the controls are judged on a sliding scale, so the amount deducted varies with the actual deficiency.

Transmission: Shift levers for manual trans should have normal travel and automatics should engage drive and reverse without a pronounced thud or clunk. (the ads said silky smooth, remember?).

Windows/Doors/Locks: More obvious stuff. The windows should roll up and down smoothly with average effort, and vent window handles should not have any slop in their fit to the vent frame post. Lock knobs and release handles, as other controls, should work with average effort and be free of excessive play.

Heater/Air Conditioner: Like everything else, heater and A/C controls should work smoothly and with average effort through their lengths of travel. The heater fan should deliver significant airflow, and no leaves, dirt, or debris should blow out of the ducts when turned on. A/C units should deliver cold air within one minute of being turned on.

Steering/Suspension: There should be no noticeable play in the steering linkage when the steering wheel is turned back and forth slightly, nor should there be excessive bounce or any squeaks during the classic shock-bounce test.

Engine: You will be asked to start the engine. Quietness is all-important here, because anything other than tailpipe emission is frowned upon. Howling fan bearings, screeching alternator bearings, rattling flywheels, screaming pilot bushings

and leaky exhaust gaskets will net you deductions. It needs to idle down nicely. Of course, if the engine stalls or smokes noticeably, you'll get deductions for that too.

Accessories: As I said earlier, if it's there, it had better work. All other items—Chevrolet or otherwise—should operate as intended.

What Is Assumed: Since operation judges do not take your car for a test drive, it is assumed that certain things work as they should. If you have a ring and pinion gear whine, or a noisy wheel bearing, only your mechanic will know for sure. Judges also do not run your wipers or washers (would you want to ask someone with a freshly restored show car to please run their wipers over a hot, dry windshield?), but if the washer bottle is empty, it couldn't *possibly* work, so you'd better top it off with Optikleen or risk a deduction.

That covers the operation checks your car will receive in the classification line. Go back and read that part about the lights—I've seen it happen several times where a deduction is given for an inoperative lamp while the owner proclaims in frustration "I just checked that yesterday and it was OK!"

Tech Tip Winter Storage

Ken Blaauw

[This article was originally printed in the November 1998 issue of the CCE Airhorn.]

Have you prepared your favorite car or cars for hibernation? If not, you may wish to check out the Corsa Tech Guide if you have one. There are some nice articles written by Larry Claypool and others who have dealt with this a time or two. If you just don't have time to go looking for that darn tech guide, here is what I remember from Larry talking to us in the fall of 1997 on storage and a few tips from his articles.

It is not necessary to fill the tank with gas or drain it. Is one better than the other? It is really up to you as the car owner. Do what ever works best for you. A can of Heet or similar product may be helpful in dispersing excess moisture from the fuel system.

Change the oil and filter before storing the car. This will remove any excess moisture and deposits from the crankcase.

Check the tire pressure; fill all of the tires up to 30 psi. Put the car on jackstands if you want. Winter storage should not cause any serious deformation to the tires.

Remove the battery cables and install a low voltage trickle charger to the battery. This will keep it fully charged without over charging it over the long winter. If I remember properly, the professor recommends a charger of 20 milli-amps or less. Basically take the cord off an old answering machine or cordless phone that has a plug rated at 20 milli-amps and connect two alligator clips to it. Connect it to your battery and to a power source and you are in business.

Otherwise, I think that is it; a car cover is good to protect the paint from dust and scratches and it also may be helpful to squirt the cables and hinges with some WD-40. If anyone has any other tips, or possibly some extra 20 milliamp plugs. Maybe we can get the new president to bring this up at the November meeting,

Making It Home

Larry Claypool

Just wanna make it back home.....

Driving an old car can have its 'moments', regardless of the make. The newest car I own wasn't even built during this century, so I guess *all* my cars could be considered old ones. When you drive an old car often, you become adept at "MacGyvering" stuff to get home.

Way back in the early 70's I was driving a 62 Monza convert that began to have fuel starvation troubles whilst on the Dan Ryan expressway towards Chicago. I coasted over to the shoulder and after about 15 minutes of fiddling, determined the fuel pump eccentric or pump pushrod must have become worn out as I could push the pump manually up and down and make it work, but it would not do so when correctly secured by its positioning bolt. As it happened, I was quite near the public transit "L" line that could take me to 22nd street, three blocks away from the famed Warshawsky (A.K.A. JC Whitney "Everything Automotive") location. That I did, and one hour later returned with an inexpensive electric pump, a little wire, some hose and clamps. I bypassed the mechanical pump with the precariously routed rubber hoses, just laid the pump loose on the rear frame rail and hooked the power wire to the positive terminal of the coil; all things I shudder to think of now (but still see people doing it that way on YouTube). But it worked and I was able to drive away under my own power until I could address the problem correctly.

Another time the CCE Slalom Team was up at an autocross in a suburb of Milwaukee, some 140 miles from home. Being young and on a slim budget, nobody had a trailer back then, we'd just tow bar our 'race' cars if it was a long trek. Another club member whose name shall not be mentioned (but his initials are Harry Jensen) was racing his Stinger when it came to screeching halt in the middle of the course. The differential had locked up, probably due to diminished gear oil. We had to use a floor jack under the diff to be able to push it off the course. A car that won't move, and no trailer, tow dolly, or freewheeling hubs to found. What to do? As the diff wasn't a posi, and figuring it was already toast anyway, I surmised if we removed one axle shaft and somehow made something to wedge between the trailing arm and the diff case, we could let the one connected axle turn through the spider gears and tow it home. A suitable 2x4 was located and crudely hacked into something that looked nothing like an upper suspension link, but performed that task admirably, or at least long enough to make it home.

My girlfriend way back then had a well-used Corvan she drove (including all the way to and from the first Seattle convention in '75). I got a call from her one day explaining the accelerator pedal suddenly dropped to the floor while engine remained at idle. Figuring the linkage just fell apart somewhere I was dismayed to find the inner cable itself had broken somewhere in its tortured and mostly inaccessible route to the back of the van—a job that would require more resources than the parallel parking spot it had stopped at. We found (or bought, I can't remember) a piece of clothesline, and with the engine cover removed, tied one end to the carburetor cross shaft, and the other to the front seat adjuster lever, with just

enough extra to run over my left shoulder. Throttle action was now possible by leaning forward, which pulled open the cross shaft and thus the carbs. Drove it back the shop that way.

Much more recently at the '17 convention in Independence, I came across good my friend, the late Burt Neuner, sitting on the shoulder of the road during the rally with smoke billowing out of the right rear wheel. He explained that brakes were getting hot and was dragging badly. Experience told me it was a collapsed brake hose, having suffered a similar fate myself in 2009 at the Jacksonville convention. We *could* have called a tow truck, but I put forth the proposition I could 'fix' this enough to get back to the hotel. With that, the tire was removed (make note—don't hold onto those hot lug nuts!) and a quick turn of the bleeder screw released the trapped fluid pressure and brake was released. To make sure it stayed that way, I beat the trailing arm steel brake flat with a suitable hammer, thus preventing any further brake application on that wheel. Burt then drove it back to the host hotel without further ado.

Such repairs are not confined to Corvairs. Many of you have seen my 'driver' Cadillac Deville, now celebrating it's 26th birthday. Last year while driving to Indiana to Shelly's mom's, the power steering pump began whining, and eventually quit being power. Once at our destination, I didn't have to investigate very far to find the power steering oil cooler, located in front of the air conditioning condenser, had gotten rusty enough to spring a leak (big clue—oil was dripping off the *outside* of the grill). I reasoned that none of my other big cars had a power steering cooler, so the old Cad could probably get along without one as well. A quick stop at the Logansport Rural King store, conveniently open at 7 AM, armed me with a pair of cheap pliers, a screwdriver, two clamps, and two quarts of steering juice. They didn't have much in the way of actual auto parts besides batteries and oil, but they did have a marvelous plumbing department where I picked up two six-inch pieces of galvanized 1/8" steel pipe and a coupler to join them. About 20 minutes of fiddling to remove the hoses from the leaky cooler later, the old hoses slid onto my foot long 'bypass' pipe rather nicely. Clamps tightened and steering pump refilled, it worked perfectly and will remain so until that car's dying day.

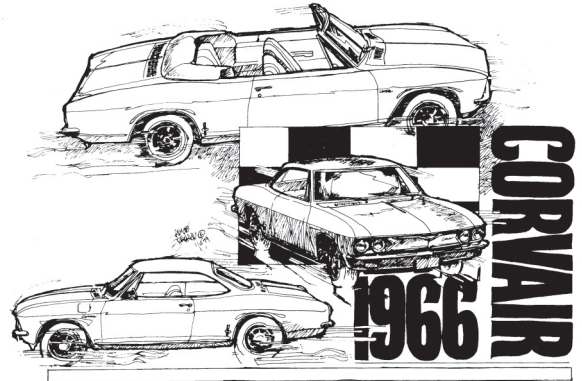
Some things are just too severe to MacGyver up—like when the clutch disc flings off all its lining into the extremities of the bellhousing, or a front wheel/tire/brake drum and remnants of the glowing red hot wheel bearing go careening off your car towards the shoulder and beyond. But Rick Herda did relate to me he saw some unmemorable rear wheel drive car plodding down Western Avenue in Chicago on a nice summer day sans right front wheel. In its place was the bottom half of some store's now long missing shopping cart, placed strategically under the lower control arm. Confident in this solution, the driver wheeled along as if nothing was out of the ordinary. As long as he avoided the big potholes and manhole covers, I am sure he made it home.

With a little thought and the barest of resources, you probably can too.



Classified Ad

For Sale: One clear and one tinted rear windshield for LM Coupes Make offer. Contact Fred Castro 630-843-1270 [submitted 2024-06]



Activities Calendar

CCE Board

CCE SPONSORED OR RECOMMENDED EVENTS

Dec 11 – 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.

Dec 14 – CCE Christmas Party, home of Kevin Kloker, same as last year. See flyer at end of this *Airhorn*.

Dec 18 – General Meeting, 7:00 PM, in person at the Villa Park VFW on St. Charles Road. Meeting upstairs. Doors open 6:30. Meeting starts at 7:00. **We have the room until 9:30.**

Dec 25 – Articles are due for the January *Airhorn*. Also, Merry Christmas!

Jan 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.

Jan 15 – General Meeting, 7:00 PM, in person at the Villa Park VFW on St. Charles Road. Meeting upstairs. Doors open 6:30, meeting starts at 7:00. **We have the room until 9:30.** Entertainment is the annual What's It Contest, where members guess at the purpose of obscure Corvair parts.

Jan 22 – Articles are due for the February *Airhorn*.

Feb 12 – 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.

Feb 19 – General Meeting, 7:00 PM, in person at the Villa Park VFW on St. Charles Road. Meeting upstairs. Doors open 6:30, meeting starts at 7:00. **We have the room until 9:30.** Entertainment is annual Sweets Auction.

Feb 26 – Articles due for the March *Airhorn*.

Mar 12 – 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 19 – General Meeting, 7:00 PM, in person at the Villa Park VFW on St. Charles Road. Meeting upstairs. Doors open 6:30, meeting starts at 7:00. **We have the room until 9:30.** Entertainment is annual Chili Cook-Off.

Mar 26 – Articles are due for the April *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, 7:00 PM, 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 7:00 PM. We have the room until 9:30. Doors open 6:30.

OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

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

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, 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 6:30 PM; meetings begin at 7:00.

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

CCE Facebook: www.facebook.com/Chicagoland-Corvair-Enthusiasts-CCE-106483452772030

(or search on "facebook chicagoland corvair enthusiasts")

CCE Instagram: www.instagram.com/chicagocorvairclub

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