

A PUBLICATION OF THE CHICAGOLAND CORVAIR ENTHUSIASTS

A CORSA CHAPTER

January 2025

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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

*[Editor's Note: Paul was not able to submit an article this month.]*



### From the Director

Secretary John DiProva

#### My Corvair Journey

My earliest recollection of a Corvair was when I was a young boy. Santa brought me a slot car track for Christmas. It wasn't a very accurate representation; however, it still had the lines and headlights depicted correctly. My mother had a friend who had a blue Corvair sedan that I remember seeing. I thought it was cool that there were "holes" in the "trunk". I remember building a Corvair model car that looked really cool with the angled nose and really different engine. Time passed and I would hear about these cars occasionally but



didn't think too much about them.

One day I was checking out Craigslist as I usually did and came across a post for a 1963 Corvair Monza 900 coupe that was for sale in Alsip, Illinois. I contacted the seller and agreed on a time to see the car. I must say when I pulled up, I was instantly in awe of the car. The color was stunning and the trim was just beautiful. The seller started the engine and the car ran smooth and he took me for a ride and it rode really nice. Included with the car are new front bucket seat upholstery pieces from Clark's Corvairs that eventually will be installed.

He mentioned he had a couple more people that were supposed to see the car and he would let me know if it sold. A few days later he emailed me and let me know it was still for sale if I was still interested. I went back that weekend and we



talked more in detail about the car. It belonged to his father Chester Jodlowski who had passed away.

The car was now in his son Joe's possession but he didn't have the time to restore it etc. He mentioned Chester had belonged to a Chicago Corvair club and enjoyed attending events. Joe and I agreed on a price and a date to get the car home. The car had been sitting and had not been driven much so I thought it would be best to have it towed home. Joe knew a guy who was a flatbed driver who could tow it from Alsip to Shorewood. I made the arrangements to get her to her new home. I brought Jane Horak with me to get the car and I believe when Jane saw it was love at first site. Joe drove the car for the last time onto the flatbed. The driver secured the Corvair and home we went. Once home the driver unloaded our Corvair. I took it around the block, brought it back and let Jane drive it.



We then found and joined the Chicagoland Corvair Enthusiasts. I remember attending the first meeting with Jane and having a great time. We have enjoyed many car shows and summer drives. We love talking to people and watch people look at the engine in the back a little bewildered. We love when people remember owning a Corvair or that they knew someone who does or did. We love bringing our Beagle/basset



hound Tucker with us to the shows as people come up to say hi to him.

We look forward to adding to our Corvair's Journey and many more miles. It has brought us many places as they say "miles and smiles". One of the most meaningful things of being part of this club is talking to members who remember our Corvair and remember when it was Chester's Corvair. It has occurred to me that the most exciting journey is that our 1963 Corvair Monza has come back and brought us to this incredible Corvair Club and Corvair family.

## From the Editor

*Charley Biddle*

Ramblings from your Humble Editor—

**Articles Deadline:** This is a gentle reminder to all that *Airhorn* articles are technically due on the fourth Wednesday of the month after the third Wednesday of the monthly CCE meeting. I know this may not be possible in all cases (e.g., bank monthly statement does not come out until the actual end of the month).

**Your First Corvair:** I'm sure there are a number of you who have stories about their first Corvairs. The *Airhorn* would like to invite you to submit articles about how you came to acquire your first Corvair and why.

**Thought:** "Never apologize for being sensitive or emotional. It's a sign that you have a big heart, and that you aren't afraid to let others see it. Showing your emotions is a sign of strength."

— Stitch Lover's Facebook

**Thought:** "The budget was unlimited, but I exceeded it." — Donald Trump

**Thought:** "Spread the Laughter, Share the Cheer, Let's be Happy, while we're here!" — Anonymous

## Board Meeting Minutes

*John DiProva*

**Date:** Dec. 11, 2024

**Location:** Manny's Ale House, Elmhurst, IL

**Start Time:** 7:35 PM

**Roll call:** Board members present:

**President**—Paul Polster, **Vice President**—Jeff Wentz, **Treasurer**—Kevin Kloker, **Secretary**—John DiProva, **Director at Large**—Lin Parro. **Absent**—none.

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

**Other Members Present**—Kirk Parro, Ray Johnson, Jane Horak

**1, Welcome from Paul Polster, Presiding Board member**  
Paul welcomed everyone and got right to business.

**2. Treasurer's Report: Kevin Kloker**

The November financials are in the December *Airhorn*.

**2a The board voted on two motions and approved two motions:**

**1st motion:**

**Transfer the checking account at Fifth Third Bank to Consumer Credit Union**

President Paul Polster, Vice president Jeff Wentz,

Treasurer Kevin Kloker, Secretary John DiProva, Director at large Lin Parro all voted in favor.

**2nd motion:**

**Transferring the savings CD (upon maturity) from Fifth Third Bank to Vanguard**

President Paul Polster, Vice president Jeff Wentz, Treasurer Kevin Kloker, Secretary John DiProva, Director at large Lin Parro all voted in favor.

**3. Airhorn Report: Charley Biddle**

Nothing to report

**4. Membership Report: Charley Biddle**

- We have 137 members
- We have 51 individual, 68 family, 7 honorary and 11 complimentary members
- This will be updated after the general meeting.
- Charley will continue to update the membership database.

**5. Library Report: Diane Johnson**

Diane will bring some copies of old *Airhorns* for members to read and for members to take home

**6. Activities: Lin Parro**

Lin asked for suggestions for a date and ideas for our annual Spring Tour. We are targeting Sunday May 4th.

- Jeff Wentz suggested the Auburn Cord Duesenberg museum located in Auburn, Indiana. That is approximately 3 hours and 180 miles from Chicago.
- John DiProva suggested the National Corvair Museum in Chatham, Illinois. That is approximately three hours and 200 miles from Chicago. Please feel free to offer ideas and suggestions.
- Lin also suggested a “dust off” close to Home Run for lunch or dinner.
- John DiProva suggested Dell Rhea chicken basket in Willowbrook Illinois located at I-55 and Route 83.

**7. Old Business:**

None to report

**8. New Business:**

None to report

**9. Adjournment:**

Motion by: Lin Parro Seconded by: Jeff Wentz Time: 8:25 PM

## General Meeting Minutes

*John DiProva*

**Date:** December 18<sup>th</sup> 2024

**Location:** Villa Park VFW Hall

**Start Time:** 7:05 PM

**1. Roll call: board members present at meeting start**

**President**–Paul Polster, **Vice President**–Jeff Wentz, **Treasurer**–Kevin Kloker, **Secretary**–John DiProva, **Director at Large**–Lin Parro(absent)

**Committee heads all present at meeting start:**

**Airhorn Editor/Membership Chair**–Charley Biddle, **Activities Coordinator**–Lin Parro(absent), **Social Media**–Shelly Claypool, **Librarian**–Diane Johnson

**2. Call to order and welcome from presiding board member:**

President Paul Polster welcomed everyone and asked if

there were any new attendees or first timers in a long time present. None present.

**3. Treasurer’s report: Kevin Kloker**

- The November financials are in the December *Airhorn*.
- As noted in past minutes we are looking into finding a better checking and savings account. The bank is asking us to verify our Taxpayer I.D. number. We are not able to locate the original club documents. We will continue to work through the process to correct the situation. There are 2025 membership checks that will be deposited into the current banks savings account.
- Kevin thanked everyone for coming to the Christmas party. Kevin thanked Lin Parro and Dee Dee Dickinson and others for their work.
- Kevin Kloker brought a box of items left behind for members to look through.

**4. Airhorn Report: Charley Biddle**

Charley said he was a little late getting the *Airhorn* out and asked if everyone did not get their *Airhorn*. No one present replied that they did not get their *Airhorn*.

**5. Membership report: Charley Biddle**

- Charley reported we have 137 members 2 new members Jane Horak, and a friend of Larry Claypool.
- Charley will be accepting dues until the end of March.

**6. CORSA news: Larry Claypool**

- **The new location for the 2025 CORSA International Convention is The Embassy Suites by Hilton San Luis Obispo**
- **Address:** 333 Madonna Rd, San Luis Obispo, CA 93405
- **Phone:** (805) 549-0800
- **March 20-23<sup>rd</sup> 2025**
- More details to come at next month’s January 15<sup>th</sup> general meeting.

**7. Library report: Diane Johnson**

- Nothing new to report for the library.
- Diane brought one of three history photo albums for members to look through. This album was from approximately May 2003.
- There are two other albums in the collection. Diane will bring those to future club meetings.

**8. Social media: Shelly Claypool**

Nothing new to report.

**9. Activities Report: Lin Parro**

In Lin’s absence John DiProva gave a brief report:

- The January General meeting What’s it contest.
- The February General meeting Sweets Auction.
- The March General meeting Chili Cook-Off.
- The January 12<sup>th</sup> 50th Annual Swap meet 7 AM-1 PM at the Will County fairgrounds, 710 S West Street, Peotone, IL Presented by the Great Lakes Region Vintage Chevrolet Club of America.
- Also, the annual Spring Tour date is tentatively Sunday March 5<sup>th</sup>. Lin is open for additional ideas for locations to previous suggestions of



- The Auburn Cord Duesenberg Museum in Auburn, IN
- The Corvair Museum in Chatham, IL
- Also open to ideas for our "Dust -off Tour" which would be a short run for breakfast, lunch, dinner etc. previous suggestion is
- The Dell Rhea Chicken Basket in Willowbrook, IL located at 1-55 and 83 Kingery highway frontage road.

**10. Old business:**

Nothing new to report.

**11. New business:**

Nothing new to report.

**12. Adjourn:**

Motion by: Diane Johnson, Seconded by: Lou Zanon,  
TIME: 7:35 PM

## Membership Report

*Charley Biddle*

**Welcome New Members:**

**Tod Bigott**

3 S 450 Patterman Rd.  
Warrenville, IL  
(630) 632-9118 (cell)  
ashlandconst@aol.com  
1965 Corsa Convertible

**Jane Horak**

1917 Carlton Dr.  
Plainfield, IL 60586  
(815) 409-0544 (cell)  
MyWesties3@gmail.com

**Membership Renewals:** As of this writing, 63 membership renewals have been received. There are about 75 memberships remaining to renew, assuming all existing members will actually renew. I know several members have sold their Corvairs. Some of these Corvairs are still in the club, resurfacing with new members. Of course, there are some members who will simply forget to renew their dues. Once they realize they are not getting *Airhorns* after March, they come around and renew.

**Birthdays for 2/1 thru 2/28 are:** 2/2—Jerry Malloy; 2/3—Ken Johnson; 2/4—Connie Lundin; 2/5—Jeanne Mueller; 2/6—Bill Kowalewski; 2/7—Rich Carroll; 2/8—Louis Zanon, John Zolot; 2/9—Henry Stein; 2/15—Lynda Neuner; 2/17—Vicky Benuska; 2/18—Joyce Quattrochi; 2/21—Bill Stricker; 2/26—Mike Pfingsten; 2/27—Eric Schuermann; 2/28—Lonny Rigdon.

**Anniversaries for 2/1 thru 2/28 are:** (none)

**Membership Numbers:** CCE has 52 Active members, 69 Family members, 8 Honorary members,



## Treasurer's Report

*Kevin Kloker*

12/01/2024 – 12/31/2024

**Fifth Third Bank Checking Account**

	Debit	Credit	Balance
12/01 Beginning Balance			2,938.21
12/02 Donations received Nov. 20		85.00	
12/11 Printer Toner			
Cartridges	160.59		
12/19 2025 Dues		1,514.00	
12/19 Donations received Dec. 18		15.00	
12/20 VFW Rent	200.00		

**12/31 Ending Balance 4,191.62**

**Savings Account, Five Month CD matures 1/24/2025**

	Debit	Credit	Balance
12/01 Beginning Balance			10,688.57
12/24 Interest		38.62	

**12/31 Ending Balance 10,727.19**

**12/31 Total All Accounts 14,918.81**

## Activities and Events

*Lin Parro*

**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.

**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.

## April

### Spring Dust Off, date to be determined

An excuse for a CCE Get Together. So dust off your Corvair, or non-Corvair, and bring it out for a drive to a destination for lunch. Suggestion for a destination is Dell Rhea Chicken Basket in Willowbrook, IL. Hear the chicken is great!

## May

### Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, Spring Tour

- Possible designations:
  - Auburn, Cord & Duesenberg Museum in Auburn, IN
  - Corvair Museum in Chatham, IL
- If you have an idea let me know. All suggestions will be welcoming.

### M-Sa, 5/19-5/24, CORSA National Convention, San Luis Obispo, CA

- Details and updates to be announced.

## June

### General Meeting: Parking Lot Beauty Contest

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!

## CORSA News You Can Use

### CORSA Board of Directors

CORSA hopes everyone enjoyed a happy holiday season. We have a big year of Corvair fun throughout the country in 2025. The January/February issue of the *Communique* is now published digitally and available to all members on the CORSA Website. You may notice it's a little later than usual. That's because we waited to get the most current convention information published. This issue will be in the mail soon for members with print membership.

**2025 Convention Update:** As published in December, the site of the 2025 convention had to be moved due to the Radisson Hotel canceling our contract. The Convention team



secured a new site in San Luis Obispo. The Embassy Suites is our new home, and we are delighted to say it will be great. Please read more about it in this issue. Reservations are now open for CORSA members who are attending the convention. Use this link: [www.hilton.com](http://www.hilton.com), search for "Corsa Club Meeti", You can also call the hotel directly at 805-549-0800. The event is called Corsa Car Club Meeting. Please read the *Communique* for information on how to navigate the hotel reservation system for the dates you desire.

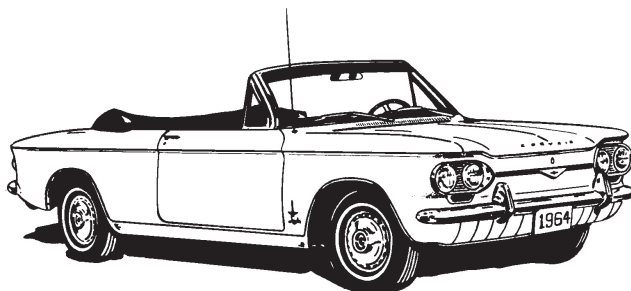
The convention rate of \$129 for king suite and \$139 for a double suite (there are taxes and fees added to those rates) is good for Monday night through Friday night. May 19-23<sup>rd</sup>. For those arriving on Monday, registration will be available, and vendors can begin set up. The convention

events begin on Tuesday with Concours and Group meetings, a Tech Session and Opening night Car Show and Valve Cover Racing. We urge you to book the hotel early since the block is limited. Overnight stays for campers or motorhomes are not allowed on the hotel property, however, the convention team will provide locations for camping in upcoming weeks.

Due to the "last minute" changes, adjustments are being made to event locations and the schedule. Online registration will be available in mid-February and the mail-in form will be provided in the March *Communique* which is published digitally and mailed out beginning in late February. Get all the latest convention information on the website here: [www.corvair.org](http://www.corvair.org), go to "CORSA News & Events", go to "CORSA Headlines".

**Communique Updates:** Editor Don Keefe has been working to publish more of what members want. You see more tech articles, more interesting Corvair stories and more about what is going on throughout the country with Chapter events. He has also been modifying the frequency of standing columns to provide more space for the best Corvair information. Please send him content- "How-To Submit Articles" under "Publications & Galleries" at [www.corvair.org](http://www.corvair.org). or reach out to him at [communique@corvair.org](mailto:communique@corvair.org).

**CORSA supports Chapter Events:** They can be listed for free in the *Communique*, on our website and our social media platforms. Members want to attend events and the CORSA sites are the best place to share information. The calendar is filling up so plan to "vacation with Corvairs" this year. And get your chapter events listed! See "Current and Upcoming Events" under "CORSA News & Events" at [www.corvair.org](http://www.corvair.org).





## FCC November Garage Tour

Larry Claypool

Our Garage Tour on November 30<sup>th</sup> brought us to the northwest suburbs of Elk Grove Village where we were invited to tour the facilities of Bob Lederer. I say facilities rather than collection, because this was *much* more than a collection of fine vehicles which ranged from the early 1900's up into the 70's. Both gasoline and steam powered machines were represented. Several top tier Chrysler Corp. cars of the mid 50-60's also drew plenty of attention. It was clear that a number of these cars had been shown at prominent shows, both locally and otherwise. There was even a vintage bar set up for Bob to enjoy the view of the automotive landscape with a drink and some friends.

That room would alone had been impressive.

Then we went next door—to the machine shop. Here was about every type of lathe, mill, boring, honing, press and assembly equipment one could image. With the help of a small cooperative foundry in Wisconsin, they were able to get new castings made to rebuild early engines and other parts whose original castings had become too porous and brittle to be salvaged otherwise. Electric starters had been ingeniously (and discretely) fitted to early cars that had none. It seemed as though no task was impossible.

And then there was the adjacent assembly room. Here (more or less) complete cars were dismantled or assembled for various stages of restoration.

We weren't done yet as we ventured over to the upholstery shop. Here century old methods were used to exactly recreate the stitching and patterns of the earliest machines. It was noted by our host their biggest battle was getting sufficient quantities of fine leather that was period correct and up to their standards.

Somewhere in the many different sections of the building there was of course a paint booth.

About 16 full time employees keep the place operational all year long. Do they do work for outside customers? Yes; well-known collections and even some museum vehicles were being worked on. What's it cost? If you have to ask that, you don't have enough.

