

A PUBLICATION OF THE CHICAGOLAND CORVAIR ENTHUSIASTS

A CORSA CHAPTER

February 2025

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NUMBER 2

February 19 CCE Meeting at Villa Park VFW at 7:00!

The February 19 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.**

March 12 CCE Board of Directors Meeting at Manny's Ale House

The March 12 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.

President's Article

Jeff Wentz

At the last meeting and included in this month's Secretary's Minutes, Paul Polster and I have swapped offices. He's now the VP and I'm the Chairman. The Club continues...

This month I was thinking about some of the cars I loved and some I regretted. As Corvair owners, we've all run into people who remark, "Why would you want a Corvair? Weren't they unsafe at any speed?" After you count to ten, you consider we've all had cars that other people thought were crazy. Geez, the most complete car guy on earth, our own Larry Claypool, loves his Yugo. Go figure.

Myself, I've had a Citroen DS 19, a 60-something Rambler, **two** VW vans (some people just never learn), and two Ford Pintos (see previous comment). I had taken off a year from college to reconsider my English Major, and had been battling an old VW van around the country. Man, what a hassle. In one respect, it was dead reliable. It would reliably crap out about every 200 miles. I remember I pulled it over off the road by a desert filling station on the way to San Antonio Texas, and was crawling around in the dirt when this very large Mexican gentleman shambled up and said slowly, "Pull over on the drive. Lot'sa snakes 'round here." Nuff said.



I limped to my aunt's place in San Antonio, where I learned my grandmother had just passed. There was absolutely no way I could have fought that VW back to Indiana before the funeral, so I traded it in on a new Pinto station wagon and headed back to Hoosierdom. (I took a big box of VW parts from the van and stopped to throw some at every VW dealership we passed.)

Pintos were becoming something of a joke, but mine was actually very nice. The ones made in Newark, New Jersey were deplorable, but the ones made in St. Jovite Canada were nice cars. Mine had a beautiful British Racing Green with gold metalflake finish and a tan interior. Remember the old 12 month or 12,000 miles warranties? At 12,220 miles all four of the shocks and the bias-ply tires needed to be replaced. Other than those, the only problems I had in 30,000 miles was a 50-cent heater switch and a timing belt that cried "Uncle" when I loaded the car with twice its rated capacity. I had just put on a new set of radials when some car thief fleeing a sheriff knocked me off the road and around a telephone pole. Fortunately, the sheriff stopped to check on me rather than continuing his pursuit (I wasn't hurt but the Pinto was totaled, and to my knowledge, they never caught the guy). I missed that car almost as much as I missed my old Monza.



From the Director

Kevin Kloker

Corvair Baby

Do you remember **Paul Revere & the Raiders**? A 1960's American pop rock band wearing Revolutionary War-era uniforms, who had multiple appearances on Dick Clark's TV shows. My favorite Raiders songs were "Hungry" and "Good Thing." Top Billboard Hits also included "Kicks" and "(I'm Not Your) Stepping Stone," covered by The Monkees and other groups.

But did you know they released a 1965 song called "Corvair Baby"? Here are the lyrics.

I got a gal who rallies the most, Corvair baby
We head for the course way down by the coast,
Corvair baby
I'll make the first turn, she says "oh yeah"
I'll make the second, she'll smile
By the time we're in the straightaway, she's by my
side
Whoa yeah, she digs my style.

Stick with me, baby, & stay by my side, Corvair baby
'Cause I want you there whenever we ride, Corvair
baby
We'll be together wherever we go, & everybody will
know
Hey you're my baby, my Corvair baby & I'll, I'll never
let you go.

(instrumental).

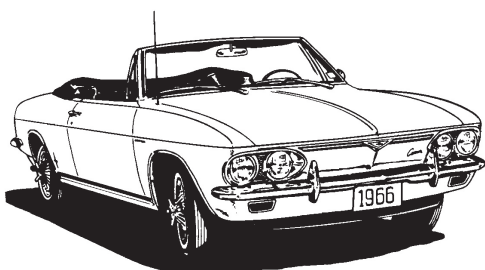
Well, I'll make the first turn, she says "oh yeah"
I'll make the second, she'll smile
By the time we're in the straightaway, she's by my
side
Whoa yeah, she digs my style.

(repeat chorus).

(repeat & fade)

You're my baby, my Corvair baby & I'll, I'll never let
you go.

Hey, it's no "Mustang Sally," "G.T.O." or "409", but it's
something!



From the Editor

Charley Biddle

Ramblings from your Humble Editor—

Golden Quill Award: I am proud to announce that the CCE *Airhorn* newsletter has been awarded a Golden Quill Award for the second year in a row from Old Cars Magazine. This is how Old Cars honors the hobby's top club publications and editors.

The award is displayed elsewhere in this *Airhorn*.

Future Planning: It is always a challenge to find articles to present in the *Airhorn*. Therefore, I am collecting articles from across the Corvair universe that might make more sense if presented in a future *Airhorn*. In the short term, think of items for an April Fools *Airhorn* issue.

For now, I am still accepting "My First Corvair" articles.

Thought: "Memory supplement is Prevagen, made from an enzyme found exclusively in glow-in-the-dark jelly fish. Guaranteed to enhance memory in jelly fish. Don't piss off these jelly fish, they won't forget you." — Gil E. Phish

Thought: "Respect people who wear glasses because they paid money to see you." — Stitch Lover's Facebook

Thought: "In a society that profits from your self doubts, liking yourself is a rebellious act." — Internet meme

Treasurer's Report

Kevin Kloker

01/01/2025 – 01/31/2025

Fifth Third Bank Checking Account

	Debit	Credit	Balance
01/01 Beginning Balance			4,191.62
01/16 2025 Dues received Jan. 15		604.00	
01/16 Donations received Jan. 15		11.00	
01/22 VFW Rent	200.00		
01/30 Deposit CD		10,767.32	

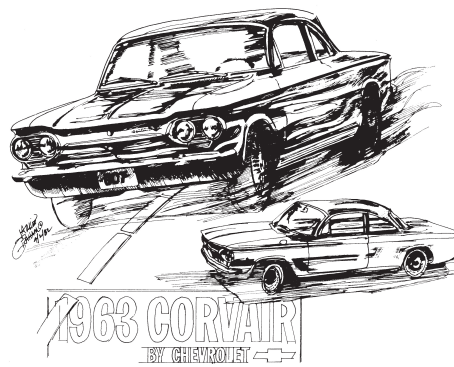
01/31 Ending Balance **15,373.94**

Savings Account, Five Month CD matured 1/24/2025

	Debit	Credit	Balance
01/01 Beginning Balance			10,688.57
01/24 Interest		78.75	
01/30 Close CD	10,767.32		

01/31 Ending Balance **0.00**

01/31 Total All Accounts **15,373.94**



Membership Report

Charley Biddle

Welcome New Members:

(none)

Membership Renewal Progress: As of this writing (during the Super Bowl), there have been 77 membership renewals. That leaves about 45 currently paid up memberships that have not yet renewed. This number may be a little high. I know some members have sold their Corvairs and will not be renewing. At least two members have passed on to that Great Garage in the Sky. We also have a number of members who simply forget to renew their dues. The renew when they realize they have not received an *Airhorn* for a while.

Membership Renewal Reminders: For those members who are still with us and have not renewed their 2025 dues, I will be mailing out reminder letters with another membership renewal form, some time around the end of February and the beginning of March. Any members who have not renewed their dues by the time I mail out the April *Airhorn*, will be considered Inactive. They will not receive an April *Airhorn* and no others until they renew their dues.

Birthdays for 3/1 thru 3/31 are: 3/1—Ted Malo; 3/3—Julie Godar; 3/9—Andy Rominiecki; 3/10—Al Harris; 3/11—Robert Benuska, Christopher Johnson, Charles Wascher; 3/12—David Kiefer; 3/14—Pat Malo; 3/16—David Davenport; 3/17—Patty Schiera Jr.; 3/18—Sue Nolte; 3/19—Kathleen Meyer; 3/21—Cathy Carroll; 3/31—Laura Schoenher.



Anniversaries for 3/1 thru 3/31 are: 3/23—Kurt & Jeanne Mueller.



Membership Numbers: CCE has 54 Active members, 68 Family members, 8 Honorary members,

Activities and Events

Lin Parro

February

General Meeting: Sweets Auction

This is a club fund raiser, 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, and guests, taste and vote for their favorite chili in

each of the four categories of 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.

April

Sunday, April 13th, Spring Dust Off - Dell Rhea Chicken Basket, 1 PM, located at 645 Joliet Rd., Willowbrook, IL.

- An excuse for a CCE Get Together. So dust off your Corvair, or non-Corvair, and bring it out for a drive (weather permitting) to meet up with fellow CCE members for lunch. In perusing the website, the venue looks like a fun place with a Route 66 themed decor and has quite the history.
- In order to make reservations, a sign-up sheet will be available at the March general meeting. If you cannot attend March's meeting, feel free to call/text me at 708-932-9966 (please let me know who you are, thank you) by Wednesday, April 9th. If you have never been there the website is chickenbasket.com, go check it out.

May

Sunday, May 4th, Spring Tour, Chatham/Springfield, IL.

The tour will be visiting the Corvair Museum in Chatham and then spend rest of the day in Springfield. Planning the day will be starting soon. Updates to follow as we get close to the date.

Tu-F, 5/20–5/23, CORSA National Convention, San Luis Obispo, CA

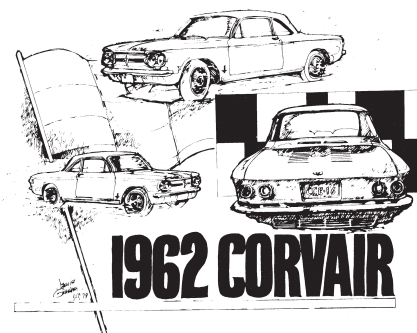
Details and/or updates will be announced at all upcoming CCE general meetings prior to the event. Convention events schedule will be posted in the March'25 *Communique*.

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.

Thanks everyone!



CORSA News You Can Use

CORSA Board of Directors

We hope everyone is busy working on those Corvair projects. Spring will be here soon and that means it's driving, and car show season. Be sure to support our vendors and advertisers as you work on your cars. A vendor list is here: Corvair Parts & Repair (corvair.org)

In this issue of the *Communique* there is important information regarding CORSA Dues. As you will read, Titus Stewart, President of CORSA shares the decision made by the board to raise dues. They have not been increased since 2010 and costs have risen since. He also highlights the importance of membership to the health of CORSA. Please read through his article, which describes how and why this important decision was made. Consider extending your membership now, before the increase takes effect June 1st. Questions or comments can be sent to your division director, Titus or the club office.

Also in this issue is information about the 2025 Convention in San Luis Obispo. It is a great location and there are many activities planned. Alternate hotels have been secured and the links to making reservations are on the CORSA Website. Also on the website is the link to register. First, log in as a CORSA Member and click on News and Events, 2025 Registration. Find all the convention information here: CORSA Headlines (corvair.org)

Help us spread the word to people who are not CORSA members. It's easy to join and there are many benefits. Starting now, CORSA is offering a "test drive" 1/2-year e-membership for \$20 for anyone not currently a CORSA member. We hope this will encourage people to join and experience the benefits of CORSA. This is also an opportunity to participate in the convention because membership in CORSA is required. The offer is good through the end of the convention in May. Send them to corvair.org, Join-Renew-Contact. Go here to renew your membership: Join CORSA (corvair.org)

Thank you to the contributors to the *Communique*. Articles come from our members, and we appreciate the great content that is being submitted. You may be noticing the *Communique* has more articles about events, Corvairs and people doing fun things with their cars. If your chapter has an event, take pictures and write a short article. Working on your car? Tell us about your journey and include photos. Reach out to the editor or your division director who can help.



Coming in March

Dee Dee Dickinson

CCE's 16th Annual Chili Cook-Off

"Any man that eats chili and cornbread can't be all bad."

Carroll Shelby

Wow! It's hard to believe that it's been 16 years since Lin Parro first told me about her idea for holding a Chili Cook-Off—and then talked me into running it with her. Now, thanks to the enthusiastic participation of our members, it's become one of CCE's most eagerly anticipated meeting events and will be held on March 19th during the General Meeting (free food tends to do that.)

All you need to do to participate is:

- Bring your chili in a 4-6 quart crock-pot
- Bring a large serving spoon or ladle
- Upon arrival, sign in with either Linda Parro or myself and let us know in what category your chili belongs

Pretty simple, huh?

And, if you're not entering a chili, yet still wish to contribute to the event, any other type of goodies to accompany/complement the chilies are most definitely welcome and appreciated!

CCE will provide:

- Power strips and extension cords
 - Tasting cups and spoons for sampling
 - Bowls for you to enjoy more of your favorite chili
- AFTER the sampling has been completed and all the votes cast
- Essentials such as cheese, onions, sour cream, oyster crackers, cornbread, Tums and Beano

There will be 4 categories: Wimpy (mild), Spicy (medium), Inferno (my head's on fire!) and Alternative. Entries in the Alternative category would include: green chilies, white chilies, meatless chilies, chicken chilies, turkey chilies—or—basically any chili that is not your traditional red chili.

As in the past, prizes will be awarded to the winner of each category and the judging will be done by your fellow club members. Sampling and voting will be done during the break, with the winners announced at the conclusion of the meeting.

Whether you're a *seasoned* veteran, a new member, or just never entered before, we encourage your participation.

But, either way, if you want to cook and compete or just want to eat, you're bound to have a whole lotta fun. Just show up at the March meeting, grab a spoon, and prepare your taste buds (and stomachs) for battle.

So dig out those secret recipes, dust off those Crock-Pots, and prepare to compete for this year's title. Let the mind games and trash-talking begin!



Christmas Party Leftovers

Kevin Kloker

If you lost this hat or sweater at the CCE Christmas party, please contact Kevin Kloker.



Dawn's Trip to Mexico

Dawn Castro

The beach club we hang out at each year started requesting license plates to use as decoration. We brought down Paul Quattrochi's Spyder plate last year. She's now proudly displayed at My Paradise Beach Club in Puerto Morelos, Mexico!



Spyder