

# VairCor

February 2026

Volume 62-2



## January Meeting

Paul Sergeant got the first meeting of his presidency started just after 7:00 and things were rolling. There were several updates and items to discuss so we proceeded to get down to business.

One of the biggest discussion points was the medical and health updates of our members. First up was Dick Berger, who has been recovering in the hospital after a discovery of some bleeding in his brain. Tim Kienzle had some throat issues while at the Roundup and discovered that he has throat cancer. Additionally, Fred Bybee has been dealing with health issues. On a lighter note, Paul and Stefani Sergeant welcomed a new grandbaby, so they have some snuggles ahead of them! Regardless of the situation, please keep our members in your thoughts and prayers, and hopefully we can reach out to help if possible.

Next up was Kat, who thanked the club for her plaque commemorating her tenure as president of the club. She is also going to be conducting a 50/50 raffle at meetings so bring some cash to the next meeting; tickets are \$1 each.

Most of our committee chairs didn't have much to provide updates on but social chair Scott Allison had some events. These included the upcoming tech session (now February 7) at the Dawson's, Cold Tuna at Terry Kalp's shop on February 21, Burn Some Burgers in honor of John Miller on April 11-14, HACO A auction on May 12, the CORSA national convention on June 22-26, and the Roundup in Arkansas on September 10-13. Looking ahead, we will be hosting the 2027 Roundup so volunteers and ideas are needed for that. What can you do?

We also need to think about the Christmas/holiday party in



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Event	Location	Date
Mid-Winter Tech Session	Dawson residence, Belton, MO	February 7
HACOIA monthly meeting	Paul and Jack's Tavern, North Kansas City, MO	February 10
MCCA Cold Tuna	Kalp Kompound, Valley Center, KS	February 21

## President's Page

Technically I think we've reached the 'middle of winter'. If not, it sure feels like it. I was hoping to write this after our winter tech session but because of WINTER, that was postponed. I'll start with a couple of reminders:

1. Dues are due. Please pay Stefani (\$15) if you have not already done so. Thank you.
2. I know it's early but June will be upon us in a hurry. The CORSA National convention will be held June 22nd through 26th. From what I hear, the rooms are going fast at the convention hotel, Wyndham Gettysburg, PA. Here is the info to make your reservations: Call 717-339-0020 use codename: CORSA National convention. You will need a credit card to hold your reservation. Do not call any corporate toll-free number or third-party website.
3. Probably also good to think about making hotel reservations for the Great Plains Roundup being held September 10th to 13th in Springdale, Arkansas. The host hotel is the Holiday Inn and NWA Convention Center in Springdale.

For some reason I am having a little writer's block this month. So I actually went back and found the issues of the Corvair Minnesota newsletters from 1998 and 1999 when I was their president. I didn't get much inspiration from those but I'm sure some of that material will show up here in the future. For this month you will get Chapter 1 of the story of my Rampside.

### Rampside – Chapter 1.

By the end of my Presidency you will likely get very tired of hearing about my Rampside so let's get started. I'm a bit of a history nut so I like digging into the history of things. The only way I know any of this is from the lettering that was on the truck. It was owned by Dean Melton of Cheyenne Wells, CO. A town about 40 miles south of I-70 just inside the eastern border of Colorado. The truck was also lettered "WARDEN" on the doors. I'm guessing he was a game warden(?). Across the front of the truck was lettered "Amy Portable Disc Rolling". With some research, I found the Amy Disc roller was (maybe still is) a gasoline-powered machine on wheels that sharpens disc plow blades without removing any material. I've seen pictures. It looks kind of like a roto-tiller, about the same size. Also, in the truck I found an old receipt from the late 60s for a load of something (might have been straw or some other farm product). I surmise this was a farm truck during it's working life going around sharpening plow discs for the local farmers. I purchased it from a gentleman near Elkhart, KS in 2015. I never got the story from him about how he got it. All I know is that he had it sitting outside in his farm yard with a number of other Corvairs. Our own Gary Moore and Gary Jones went to Elkhart, KS for me (thanks again, guys!) and retrieved it then delivered it to the storage barn at my Mother's house in Topeka, KS. (see picture) Upon my initial investigation, I found it to be fairly complete except no engine. Well, there was 2/3rds of an engine and some engine sheet metal in the bed of the truck I assume that was the original. Also, in the bed was a

non-Corvair wheel, some shotgun shells and beer cans. Based on its VIN # I can tell it was built during November 1960 in St. Louis, MO. It left the factory as a Deluxe model in all white so looks like original paint. Odometer showing 57,111 miles. The truck was very dirty and missing one of the door and wing windows. The body and underside were in surprisingly good shape with a little body damage under the front bumper and the tailgate was rough. It was mostly rust-free except the cab floor. The windshield was in bad shape as was the seat. Also had a car steering wheel instead of one for a truck. Must have made for easier entry/exit. My assessment, it was well-used throughout its life and put to pasture when there was some engine problem. I'm guessing a burned valve or dropped valve seat. Someone sent the head off for repair and ???.

If you are interested in more of the Rampside's story, I'll write a chapter 2.

HACOA has some really important things to do this year but most importantly, let's plan some get-togethers, get our cars out there to be seen and enjoy the Corvair!



**Product Review: AM/FM Radio and New Speakers.**

**I recently decided to upgrade my '61 Lakewood radio from the original Delco tube type radio and stock speaker, along with the FM converter I had added so long ago.**

**After shopping and learning a little I purchased a no-frills model with AM/FM/ and a clock. I also purchased the Kenwood two speaker setup that required a small brace across the old speaker bracket since it has mounting holes in the middle. You could be more creative and devise your own mount.**

**The radio itself fits absolutely perfectly into the original '61 bracket and face plate with only some minor adjusting of the double nuts provided. There was a brace included but the original radio brace only required slight bending to use it.**

**All the wiring was straight forward and the radio works fine.**

**Just as a note, the face plates changed in '63 and the same radio installed on our '63 coupe several years ago either had to have a '61 bracket and face plate or use of fender washers backing for the right side opening that accommodated the fader control beginning in '63.**

**And of course the late models have a sloped face plate and have their own model available.**

**There are actually several different models with various upgrades available, as well as speaker setups.**

**These are the two sources that I shopped at:**

**Clark's Corvair Parts [www.corvair.com](http://www.corvair.com)**

**Classic Car Stereos [www.classiscarstereos.com](http://www.classiscarstereos.com)**



**Mid-Winter Tech Session: Saturday, ~~January 24~~ February 7, 2026**  
**4:00 – Dinner to Follow**  
**16001 Oakland Ave, Belton, MO**

**The topic will be electrical issues including switches, starter solenoids, heater blower relays and other interesting items.**

**When feeding time arrives (approximately 5:30) Sandy will provide soup and stew with tableware, soda, coffee and adult malt beverage. Please bring something to compliment dinner such as veggies, chips, fruit, or bread.**

**Bring a chair to be comfortable and spouses are encouraged to attend; there will be an upstairs version.**

**Please RSVP to insure food and beverage supply, and so that I could contact you if we would need to postpone due to weather.**

**Mike Dawson 816 322-4057, [dawsonm1942@gmail.com](mailto:dawsonm1942@gmail.com)**



# January Meeting, continued

December. Most seem to be in favor of continuing to attend St. Andrews but costs and subsidizing will need to be discussed. Beyond that, several members are keeping their cars on the road by completing various projects. An abbreviated list includes Paul Sergeant (windows), Scott Allison (getting the Shark squared away), Dominique Allen (body work), Brad Stauffer (clutch cable, “while you’re in there” parts), Travis Bolton (Mustang for a friend, new garage doors), Mike Kliethermes (convertible window, shift linkage), Steve Maloney (fan bearing fun), Dwight Hamby (just driving!).

With that and a little bit of bantering, our meeting was a wrap. See you for our next meeting on February 10!



# Classifieds

## The Tool Crib

Club tools for rent  
Contact: Ken Ragan

212 Warner Rd, Bonner Springs, KS 66012  
913-422-5778 E-mail: [kenrragan@gmail.net](mailto:kenrragan@gmail.net)

Tool	Deposit	Monthly rental fee
Harmonic balancer puller	\$3.00	\$1.00
Ramps, auto	\$4.00	\$1.00
Torque wrenches		
1/2 inch drive 20-150 ft/lb	\$15.00	\$2.00
3/8 inch drive 100-1000 in/lb	\$15.00	\$2.00
Floor jacks and stands	\$25.00	\$3.50
Ring groove cleaner	\$3.00	\$1.00
Dwell/tach meter	\$5.00	\$1.00
Greaser: Fan and idler bearing	\$5.00	\$1.00
Ken's advice	\$.02	Grain of salt
Hubs: Rear (towing LM PowerGlide)	\$5.00	\$1.00
Pushrod tube extractor	\$10.00	\$2.00

NEW internally regulated  
63 amp Corvair alternators  
\$110 exchange

Rebuilt Corvair  
starters with  
solenoid \$130  
exchange



Professionally rebuilt Corvair  
clutch disc on a welded center  
Borg & Beck core with a  
thickness of .325" \$65  
exchange with same core.



Rebuilt harmonic  
balancer  
\$110 exchange  
for a rebuildable  
core



Mike Dawson  
[mdawson1961@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mdawson1961@sbcglobal.net)  
816-322-4057

Reproduced end plates for the 12 and 8  
plate oil cooler. These are the two pieces  
of sheet metal that help keep all the hot  
air from the oil cooler moving out the  
bottom instead of back in to the engine  
compartment. \$10 each



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TAYLOR WEST

# TMK Upholstery

taylor.west@hotmail.com 816-896-2240

1963 Corvair/Clam Digger dune buggy for sale. All Corvair running gear and suspension, including 1965 140 HP engine with centermount carburetor, dual point distributor, and electric fuel pump. Running gear includes a '64 4-speed transaxle with transverse spring and new 13 inch tires. Needs some wiring work. Asking \$3,500. Contact Dick Berger 678-650-4246.

### Space for rent

Charlie Clark has a spot available in his shop if anyone needs a place to work on their car. The rate is \$220 per month and is available now. Call Charlie 913-432-9630

# Classifieds, continued...

Barb and her husband have a 66 Monza coupe for sale in Olathe.

Hasn't run in a few years. See attached pictures. Asking \$1500.

Includes business card signed by Ralph Nader!

Reply to Barb with questions. [mamaphish@gmail.com](mailto:mamaphish@gmail.com)



# **Dues are Due**

**This is a reminder for the ones that have not got your dues paid for the year 2026. MAKE CHECKS OUT to HACOA. Please send your dues for \$15 dollars to:**

**Stefani Sergeant – Club Treasurer  
726 SE Wingate Cir  
Lee’s Summit, MO 64063**

**OR ( WE WANT YOUR MONEY!)**

**Don Wagner  
602 S 13th Terr  
Savannah, MO 64485**

**The new roster for 2026 will be coming out by the Club meeting in March. If you have any changes to your home address, email address, home phone, cell phone, or cars that you have, let me know. For the ones who come to the March meeting I will be giving out the paper roster and I will email all of the club members the club roster.**

**Don**

# What's Happening?



**2026 Elected officers**

**President – Paul Sergeant**

**Vice-President--- Mike Kliethermes**

**Secretary –Helen Moore**

**Secretary – Stefani Sergeant**

**Board Members**

**Steve Maloney**

**Larry Sherwood**

**Christopher Sperry**

## Rearview Mirror



### '62 CORVAIR MONZA

#### FAMILY SEDAN WITH A SPORTS CAR POINT OF VIEW

Now they've all got bucket seats and they're all making noises like sports cars. ■ Who started it? ■ Chevrolet did. ■ How? ■ By introducing the Monza Club Coupe, the first really new American car in years. They're trying to buck four-wheel independent suspension, air-cooled rear engine, a marvelous four-speed box (optional at extra cost) and an absolutely unique appearance inside and out, with bucket seats and jazzy armrests. Let's face it, friends, you just can't get there



from here. The Corvair Monza is a combination of the best automotive ideas from anywhere. Just to prove that it's no phony, it went out and covered itself with glory in two of North America's most grueling rallies. The echoes of the praise heaped on those Monzas will be heard for a long time. This Corvair is a *real* automobile, one that refutes once and for all the notion that you can't have full-family comfort and sports car handling in the same package. Look around you . . . more and more knowledgeable automobile people are turning to Corvair, and (we might add) with good reason. . . . Chevrolet Division of General Motors, Detroit 2, Michigan.

## February birthdays

Joyce Hutton	1
Mark Whitman	8
Carol Sego	9
Bill Smith	10
Irmajean Barton	14
Don Wagner	15
Fred Bybee	19
Steve Maloney	25
John Shadel	26

