

# Vair Views

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Greetings Everyone,

I took Roxanne out for a mid-winter shakedown last week when the temps were in the upper 60's. She was quite happy to get out of the garage and into the sunshine. Hopefully you too have had an opportunity to stretch your Corvair's legs this year. If not, it's warming up again toward the end of this week. In fact, Saturday's forecast is warm and dry, so let's see how many Corvairs we can get to adorn the parking lot of Amp Up Action Park. I think we should aim for at least 10 cars.

Last month we held a well-attended (16 members) and very productive meeting where we started planning our 2026 activities. This year we'll be doing some of our "annual favorites" plus some new adventures, such as kart races and axe throwing this Saturday, a cruise to Meramec Caverns in June, and a bowling event in August. I think everyone will find a few events that are up their alley (please forgive the pun). Be sure to check out the list in this newsletter, or the attachment to the January meeting minutes for additional details. Mark your calendars now.

I'm looking forward to spending time with everyone this year as we drive and show our unique vehicles and enjoy a wide variety of fun activities!

Kent



## Inside This Issue of Vair Views

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Go Karts ad axe throwing. Gonna' be fun.

## Bob Dellamano Member Profile

Welcome to Bob Dellamano, the newest member of the SMCC ,and his new to him Monza. Bob’s Monza is a ‘66 blue on blue, 140 four-speed. It was originally a 110 car so Bob got a car with a nice upgrade. You may have seen this car on Facebook Marketplace several weeks ago and may have seen Bob’s note about looking for a Corvair. An SMCC member sent Bob a note about the car and as they say, “The rest is history.” The previous owner did a lot of work on the car and kept it in good condition. Bob says it is not running but expects it will run well and Trevor Monninger is scheduled to work on it soon.



Bob and his Monza

Bob described the late model Corvair as unique, sleek, cool and fast, and he especially liked how the rear quarters and engine cover lengthened the rear of the car. This is Bob’s first Corvair—and his dream car - so he doesn’t yet have any interesting Corvair stories but is looking forward to making some Corvair memories. Obviously, Bob has never thrown a fanbelt.



Interesting license plate

A restored muscle version of the famous Chevy Nomad is on the list of Bob’s dream cars. He fell in love with them as a youngster and noted that you don’t see many in a hotrod version because most are restored to stock form.

Other than his Corvair Bob loves the look of most Porsches and his second choice of classic dream



cars is a ‘55 Porsche Spyder. James Dean lost his life in one that was nicknamed “The little bastard”(read the story here: [The haunting story of James Dean’s Little Bastard - Hagerty Media](#) ). Bob says there are no cars he would like to have back because they were all junkers. That may be why he said he didn’t have any really fun car memories to share, but there were a couple wrecks that stand out.

Bob wrecked two different pickup trucks with the same guy riding shotgun. Although no one was injured, after the second wreck the friend never rode in a pickup with Bob again. You should run if Bob shows up with a Rampside.



Chevy Nomad hotrod version

In his spare time Bob plays harmonica, is learning guitar and keyboards, and is looking into refurbishing vintage tube guitar amplifiers. He also runs a small business buying and selling silver, gold, platinum and precious metals. Keep an eye out for Bob at the next meeting. He may not be driving the Monza yet but you can surely have a good conversation about our favorite car. (Send us your own member profile and we will print it here. See page 6)

## SMCC 2026 Calendar of Events

Some events and times are tentative. Other events, and options to those listed, are still in consideration.  
See the meeting minutes distributed by Suzanne Cavagna.

| Date                          | Event   | Coordinator                   |
|-------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| February 28                   | General Membership Meeting and fun at Amp Up Action Park (Manchester Rd in Town & Country). Karting, axe throwing, laser tag, pickleball and arcade games. Time TBD | Phillip Kost                  |
| March 28                      | General Membership Meeting and fun at a classic car retailer. Location and time TBD.  | Dean Meyer                    |
| April 5                       | Easter Car Show at Forest Park  | TBD                           |
| April 25                      | General meeting and tech session. Location TBD  | Trevor Monninger              |
| May 30                        | Pawnee Prairie Days Car Show in Pawnee, Illinois. Joint event with Prairie Capitol Corvair Association.   | Mark Moyer                    |
| June 13                       | Meramec Caverns drive and cave tour   | Brett Starostky               |
| June 22-26                    | CORSA Convention in Gettysburg, PA  |                               |
| July 4                        | America's Birthday Parade, downtown St. Louis   | Tom James                     |
| July 11                       | Cars and Coffee at Fast Lane Classic Cars in St. Charles  | Dean Meyer                    |
| August 7                      | Memories Car Club show at Faith Church Sunset Hills   | TBD                           |
| August 22                     | General meeting and bowling. Location TBD   | Suzanne Cavagna               |
| September<br>Date TBD         | All Chevy Car Show – sponsored by Fabulous Fifties Chevy Club at Museum of Transportation   | Don Hemwall                   |
| September 26                  | Chuck-A-Burger lunch and meeting. May coordinate with one of the Corvette clubs   | TBD                           |
| October<br>Date TBD           | Cruise the river road to Grafton with lunch at Fast Eddies or other location  | Charlie Geiler                |
| October 24                    | Tech Session at Goddard's Temple of Zoom  | Kent and Kris Goddard         |
| November 21<br>Date tentative | Ameren Thanks for Giving Day Parade, downtown St. Louis   | Tom James                     |
| December 5<br>Noon—4pm        | SMCC Christmas Luncheon and Celebration at Rich and Charlie's   | Suzanne Cavagna, Kris Goddard |

## Hurricane Betsy



You know how it goes. You drive your Corvair to a car show, the grocery store, the park, or just to the gas station and somebody comes to talk with you about their Corvair story. Some stories are sweet remembrances of the Corvair they loved as a kid, the one they learned to drive in, or the one they took to their first prom. Teenaged boys ogle your Vair and say things like, *"What is that? It's beautiful."* Or, *"Is that European?"* There are thumbs up, waves, and the frequent and appreciated, *"Nice car."*

There are vague recollections of how a high school buddy had a four cylinder Corvair with a push button automatic transmission. Apparently it was one of a kind and he will argue with you all day about it. Or you get the stories of lost fanbelts, oil leaks (heck, every car leaked oil in the 60s), gas tank explosions (that was the Pinto), or the worst of all, they mention Ralph Nader, swing axles, and that I am driving a car that was declared illegal by the government. That's when I pull the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration 1972 report from my glove compartment and ask them to read the sentences I've highlighted about how the Corvair was among the best handling cars of the time.

It is nice to hear the comments even if they do begin to sound the same over time. But last week I heard an unexpected and unique story. I was sitting outside an AutoZone checking my phone and a guy startles me when he sticks his head inside my passenger window and almost shouts, *"In 1965 our family rode out hurricane Betsy in New Orleans in one of these and survived."* He points to the dash just above the radio and says, *"Busted my front tooth right there when we got rocked around."* How can you doubt a story like that?

Then he finished with this, *"Three kids and Mom and Dad. Don't know why Dad bought that car because we barely fit. But you know what? When that hurricane was over nobody else could get their car to start, much less drive through the flooded streets. Dad just turned the key and off we went."* And he added, *"That was a great car."*

I thanked the guy for the story, turned my key just like his Dad and smiled all the way home.

Mark Moyer

**Send us your stories of things people say about your Corvair and we will publish them here.**



**Photo caption contest correction:** Editor's apologies to Gary Mierzwa of the West Florida Corvair Club who was actually the first to submit captions to the contest. No, we don't know for sure how Gary received a copy of Vair Views but since he is apparently a reader we felt it was fair to include his submissions which you will find posted below. If your Editor had included Gary's submission for voting he may have won. Who knows? So Gary, consider yourself a winner and thanks for reading. Too bad there wasn't a prize.

Gary's submissions:

Who farted?

You say you lost a 10mm socket up there somewhere?

Top 5 finalists in the "Spot the oil leak contest."

What a funny place to hang a canoe.

You're right, the engine is back here.

Please help. While driving over here someone yelled and said my back wheel was going forward. What do you guys think?



## Tech Tips

Tech Tips are to be used as a guide only. No guarantee is implied that the tech tips will work correctly, nor does the Dayton Corvair Club, the editor, or the author assume any liability. (This Tech Tip is borrowed from the Dayton Corvair Club)

## VALVOLINE RESTORE AND PROTECT: Another oil option for your Corvair



According to Valvoline, this is a unique motor oil designed to remove up to 100% of engine deposits. It also provides 79% stronger anti wear protection. A discussion on Corvair Center says this oil is the real deal. According to member Richard 1, a well known lubricant expert on this website, his work evaluating this oil was convincing enough that he is now using it in his own cars. Here is an additional post by Richard that offers some info for our older cars. "Remember that one difference between our cars and modern ones is that the modern ones have timing and mixture modified several

times a second. That means there is little soot accumulation and the oil is not degraded as much. Our cars depend on our setting the timing manually to the octane and altitude we are driving, and that is not set very frequently, so oil life is much shorter. I don't know if yours is a turbo or not, but turbo engines put a lot more thermal stress on the oil." Here is another Corvair Center post about the Valvoline Protect and Restore oil by texter solo2r » Fri Aug 15, 2025 8:57 pm that says that this oil may be really special. "I have a 2003 Silverado 5.3 that recently developed a rocker tick at 175k miles, I have changed the oil and filter per the oil monitor in dash for years. This last oil change, I switched to the Valvoline Restore and Protect 5-30 and the tick went away in two days! Time will tell, but I am won over so far! I also have been using the Motorcraft Powerstroke 10-30 in Customer Vairs for years, but now will switch". For the entire "Update on Oils" post go to Corvair Center for Richard's post on Sunday August 16. It will also show a small picture of Richard's early four door that he restored in Bolivia before moving to Florida along with his Corvair a year or so ago. For those who might want to know everything about oils and lubrication, go to Richard's website: [https:// www.widman.biz/uploads/Corvairoil.pdf](https://www.widman.biz/uploads/Corvairoil.pdf)

### SMCC Officers and Advisors

#### **Officers & Board Members**

President – Kent Goddard  
Vice President – Phillip Kost  
Treasurer – Don Hemwall  
Secretary – Suzanne Cavagna

#### **Additional Board Members**

Past President – Bob Bauer  
Elected from membership:  
Bill Hutchens and Charlie Geiler

#### **Advisors**

Newsletter Editor – Mark Moyer  
Historian – Tom James  
Membership Chairman - Trevor Monninger



This plate was spotted on a Maserati

SMCC Member Profile:

Member Name:

Corvairs you currently own:

Year, color, body style, drivetrain, running or non-running, how often do you drive it?

**Send in your member profile so your fellow members can get to know you better. You will find a copy of the profile form at the end of this newsletter. Send the completed form to markmoyer1@gmail.com and your profile can be in the next issue. Or mail it to: Mark Moyer 2220 Edge Wood Manor Ln. Wildwood, MO 63011**

When and why did you buy it (them)?

What is it that you like most about Corvairs?

Any interesting story about your Corvair, or others you have owned:

Describe your dream Corvair:

Corvair job you hate most (e.g. brakes, upholstery, oil change, etc.):

Have you ever thrown a fanbelt?

Other than a Corvair, and assuming money is no object, what classic domestic or foreign car or truck would you most like to own and why? What car or truck would be a close second?

Name one car you'd most like to have back, including cars from your childhood to today.

Fondest car-centered memory ("G" rated version). (first date, parade, best compliment you received, etc.)

Do you/have you owned any other classic cars, and what are they?

Other hobbies or activities you participate in: