

March 2026

VOLUME 59
NUMBER 3

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

The March 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.**

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

The April 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

Lin Parro



Hi all,

Kirk and I took a three-week adventure out West to San Diego to attend Hudson's, our grandson, State Cup soccer tournament. This trip we were finally able to visit with family and friends-didn't have to be back for work, no important appointments/commitments, and pet free.

Texas was our first stop visiting family in Bluff Dale and a friend in Fort Worth. From there we headed to Arizona to visit friends in the Phoenix area; one who is a very longtime friend and CCE member, Fred Bachrodt. On our way home, via Phoenix, we visit our other friend.

We arrived in San Diego in time to pick up Hudson from school. Go figure, the weather was colder than back home. (A few Amazon orders for warmer clothing were made.) But it did warm up to the mid-80's for the soccer games and during the rest of our stay.

Angela, Chad's girlfriend, invited me to play bingo. Other than Christmas bingo, I have never played actual bingo. I never knew there are so many different games. The cards were color coded to specific games. Thanks to Angela and her friends who helped me look for the numbers and marked my card(s) accordingly. (I played three cards, quite ambitious for a first

timer.) At the end of each game my cards had every color you can think of on them. I really had a lot of fun and look forward to going again.

It's now Saturday, game day. The soccer tournament is played at, what I think, a horse ranch that has numerous equestrian training courses, horseback riding, ability to stable horses and, most likely, many more amenities. There are twenty soccer fields with games going on all at the same time.

Hudson's team, the Crusaders, are just amazing and very impressive. Over the weekend they won 3-0 on Saturday, 2-1 and 3-0 on Sunday. The following Saturday won 4-0. These were State Cup elimination games, and the undefeated Crusaders will be representing their Division, Southern California-Flight 1, in the Sweet 16. They will need to win these last four games to not only be, did I mention, undefeated in their division but also State Cup Champions. How cool would that be? Good luck Crusaders-you got this!!!!

The week in between soccer games we took a drive to Las Vegas to visit my cousin. We stopped at Peggy Sue's 50's Diner, in Yermo, CA, for lunch. (Some of you may know about this diner.) The entrees were enough for two. The nostalgia on the walls is the same as you may see at other diners, but nevertheless it was cool. Walking into the building, the diner is on the right and on the left is the store selling souvenirs, t-shirts, ice cream, and various types of candy that you don't see that often.

Chad and Angela took us to the Lafayette Hotel for lunch.

OMG!! Walking into the hotel was like going back to the 1920's, and you get that Great Gatsby vibe. It's one of those venues that "you have to see it for yourself", there are no words that will give it justice in describing the hotel. After lunch the guys went one way, and we gals went to the Spanish Art Gallery that hosts many local artists selling their works of art. I try to visit whenever the opportunity arises; you always come across new artists.

On our last day in San Diego, we watched Hudson's team win their fourth elimination game and later had a little get together at the house with friends.

Sunday morning, we headed for home. Another fabulous trip!

From the Director

Mike Schiera

Hello CCE, this is my very first article since I became a board member at large. I was asked to write an article for the *Airhorn* for this month. Where should I start? There is so much that I remember when I was a kid growing up in the 80's and 90's. With CCE, in the early 80's when I was much younger and so was everyone else back then. CCE was more active and yes, I know as the years pass by we all are getting older, but that's life.



In the early 80's CCE had their meetings held at the GM training center. I was allowed to go to four meetings per year, three meetings during summer, and one for Christmas. Yep, I was still in grammar school at this time plus my mom did not want me to go to the monthly meetings on a school night. So that's why I was able to go during the summertime and winter break. The GM Training center is a great place for CCE meetings. Every month someone can drive their Corvair car or truck inside to have it on display during a CCE meeting then talk about their Corvair during break or after the meeting.

After the meetings CCE used to go to this really cool place called Mike's body shop. It was a restaurant and I think it was a real body shop at one time, but it was converted into a restaurant and bar. This place had real cars inside with the interiors gutted out and they put a booth with a table inside of each car, so yeah you were sitting in a real car eating your meal. Also, each car had its own light inside so you can see what you are eating. They also had a huge firetruck with a long table on the back of it with many chairs for big parties. Well, when CCE went there after the meetings, they took up that whole table on top of that fire truck. CCE went there every month after the meetings. I still wish Mike's body shop was still around today.

CCE Picnics.

Well, I remember some not many though. We had them at Beamis Woods back in the day, and that's when many CCE members used to take their Corvairs to the picnics. The whole parking lot would be filled with nothing but Corvairs. Those were the good old days. My dad also reminded me when we talked about the CCE picnics from time to time. He told me that I used to look at every taillight on a Corvair. When he told me that I remembered that right away. Why did I look at all the taillights? Well, I don't know, maybe I was fascinated by them.

Vacuum cleaner blow ups at The Vair Shop during the Fourth of July weekend. Once a year Larry Claypool will host a vacuum cleaner blow ups at his shop in Frankfort, IL. CCE would save their old vacuums for this event. They had models like Hoover, Electrolux, and many others. Some vacuums did well and some did not do so well. But it was fun watching them blow up and catch fire. Not to mention club members yelling MORE GAS! I don't know the whole story about the Vacuum cleaner blow up story. You will have to ask Larry. I think someone needed to replace their gas tank in his Corvair, but he needed to suck all the gas out of it. So, what's a better way to use a vacuum cleaner. Well, the idea sounded good at the time, but soon as the gas made contact with the electric motor boom, it blew up.

Well, I hope you all enjoyed my short and to the point stories of the past with CCE. More to come in the future.

—Mike

From the Editor

Charley Biddle

Ramblings from your Humble Editor—

Golden Quill Award: In last month's editor's column I said a copy of the Old Cars Magazine Golden Quill Award was in last month's *Airhorn*. Only after I had sent out the *Airhorn* to members and found the award still sitting in the stack of papers next to my computer, did I realize I had not included it in the February *Airhorn*. I will rectify that this month.

Printed *Airhorn* Picture Resolution: A few months back, someone at a CCE meeting raised an issue about some of the pictures in the printed version of the *Airhorn* lacked resolution. When I was printing last month's February *Airhorn*, I noticed the black toner cartridge was running low. I also noticed the magenta color was a bit off. I replaced the black toner cartridge and the magenta toner cartridge. I printed one more *Airhorn* and noticed the pictures were still not quite right. I replaced all four toner cartridges and all the pictures were now printing correctly. I keep a spare set of toner cartridges on hand for just these situations. Having no more spare cartridges, I ordered out two sets of Canon equivalent toner cartridges. The price per set was \$90. These are probably the last of the Chinese cartridges that Amazon had in stock, before the tariffs were imposed.

Thought: "A nation that can instantly fund war but debates healthcare has a values problem, not a budget problem." — Internet meme



Treasurer's Report

Liam Coyne

02/01/2026 – 02/28/2026

Fifth Third Bank Checking Account

	Debit	Credit	Balance
02/01 Beginning Balance			846.71
02/25 VFW Rent – February	200.00		
02/27 Sweets Auction Cash		247.00	
02/27 Donations (cash)		17.00	

02/28 Ending Balance **903.71**

Vanguard Savings Account

	Debit	Credit	Balance
02/1 Beginning Balance			13,545.82
02/27 Dividend		37.36	

02/28 Ending Balance **13,583.18**

02/28 Total All Accounts **14,486.89**

Membership Report

Charley Biddle

New Members:

(none)

Membership Renewal Progress: As of this writing, of the 107 Individual and Family memberships that are up for renewal, 23 have not renewed. 84 have renewed. This is typical of progress at this point in the membership renewal process. For both digital delivery and printed delivery, those memberships who have not yet renewed, their March *Airhorn* will include a special page in front of the basic *Airhorn*, reminding them to renew. Printed *Airhorn* memberships will have a 2026 renewal form in the envelope with the March *Airhorn*. Digital delivery memberships will receive a special postal mailing of a paper renewal form.

Birthdays for 4/1 thru 4/30 are: 4/2—Katie Hentschel, Renee Wiesner; 4/12—Paul Ilovsay; 4/18—Guy Brandes, Linda Pilloff; 4/19—Thomas Godar; 4/20—Stanley Naymola, Robert Riley; 4/21—Bob Smith; 4/23—Lin Parro; 4/25—Joy Lynaugh, Roger Schoon; 4/26—Kirk Parro; 4/28—Dave Kolber.



Anniversaries for 4/1 thru 4/30 are: 4/11—Louis & Gloria Zanon; 4/13—Richard & Kathy Voboril; 4/21—Fred & Dawn Castro.



CCE Numbers: CCE has 44 Active members, 63 Family members, 8 Honorary members



Board Meeting Minutes

John DiProva

Date: February 11th, 2026

Location: Manny's Ale House, Elmhurst, IL

Start time: 7: 33 PM

Roll call: Board members present at meeting start:

President: Lin Parro, **Vice President:** John DiProva, **Treasurer:** Liam Coyne, **Secretary:** Joe Falbo **Director at Large:** Mike Schiera, **Absent:** Joe Falbo.

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

Other Members Present: Kirk Parro, Jane Horak.

Welcome from Lin Parro, Presiding Board member.

Lin called the meeting to order and advised that she and Kirk will not be at the February 18th General Meeting. She and Kirk are traveling to California and back.

John DiProva will be presiding board member in her absence at the February 18th General Meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Liam Coyne

- Liam reported as of January 1st our Fifth Third checking account balance was **\$783.71**
- There were the following deposits
 - Diecast auction cash \$210
 - Membership dues cash \$38
 - Membership directory cash \$3.00
- Expenses were
 - Diecast auction checks \$30,\$32
 - VFW rent \$200
 - Gift cards check \$50
- Checking account ending balance was **\$846.71**
- For our Vanguard savings account the beginning balance was **\$13,504.06**
 - There was a dividend of \$41.76
 - Ending balance is **\$13545.82**
- Total for all accounts \$14392.53
- Liam was finally able to change the address for the Vanguard savings account from Kevin Klokera's address to his address. There were some issues he had on their website and was able to resolve the issues

Airhorn Report : Charley Biddle

- Charley handed out under construction copies of the *Airhorn*
- He is working to resize all the articles to get the final version complete

Membership Report – Charley Biddle

- Current membership is 1127 members
- Charley mailed out the new membership renewal forms
- Charley is continuing the work on transitioning the membership to Dee Dee
- Working on issues with the software etc.
- See membership report for details

Library Report: Diane Johnson

- The library received several new donations at the last general meeting.
- Diane explained the process
 - The library adds a pocket with a checkout card to

the inside of the item than and catalog the items into the library. Diane will do a upcoming report listing the new items

- Once Diane receives the annual state of Illinois NFP renewal paperwork, She will work with Liam to file it and pay it electronically.
- Spirit Wear CCE apparel:
 - After February 15th ordering will close until early spring.
 - There were questions about adding additional items and other color options to the apparel line up. This will be discussed in upcoming meetings.

Special Reports or Announcements:

- None

Activities: Lin Parro

- February 18th's General Meeting will host our Annual Sweets Auction.
- March 18th's General Meeting will have our annual CCE Chili Cook-Off.
- April 12th will be our Annual Spring Dust Off Tour tentatively heading to the American Motors museum in Kenosha, WI. See more details in the *Airhorn*.

Old Business:

- None to report.

New Business:

- None to report.

Adjournment

- Motion by: Liam Coyne, Seconded by: John DiProva, Time: 8:11 PM.

General Meeting Minutes

Joe Falbo

Date: February 18th, 2026

Location: VFW Hall Villa Park

Start time: 7:10 PM

Roll call: Board members present at meeting start:

Vice President: John DiProva, **Treasurer:** Liam Coyne,

Secretary: Joe Falbo, **Director at Large:** Mike Schiera

Absent: President, Lin Parro

Committee Heads Present: *Airhorn* Editor and

Membership: Charley Biddle, **CORSA:** Larry Claypool,

Social Media: Shelly Claypool, **Library:** Ray Johnson

Welcome from Presiding Board Member

- John DiProva called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
- Approval of last month's general meeting minutes by **Greg Lehman** and second by **Joseph Falbo**.

Treasurer's Report: Liam Coyne

- Diecast car auction totals from last month's meeting is \$210.00.
- Combined total of \$14,392.53 in all accounts. (See details in the treasure's report.)

Airhorn Report: Charley Biddle

- The *Airhorn* was awarded *Old Car Magazine's* "Golden Quill" award for the third year in a row! The category was *Economy Size Regions and Chapters*. Congratulations to Charley and CCE!

Membership Report: Charley Biddle

- Current membership is 124 members, *see **Membership Report** in the *Airhorn* for detailed info regarding membership news.
- Membership renewal forms are out now to all members for 2026 dues.

CORSA News: Larry Claypool

- Reminder: Info for the 2026 International CORSA convention.
- When: June 22nd thru-26th 2026.
- Location: Wyndham Gettysburg Hotel & Convention Center, 95 Presidential Circle, Gettysburg, PA 17325-8397
- Phone: (717) 339-0020 - Hotel
- Reserve your hotel room early! When calling to reserve rooms, do NOT call any corporate toll-free or third party numbers, call the phone number above which is the hotel directly, do NOT choose Option 1 for reservations, INSTEAD, **choose Option 3** and use the name *Corsa National Convention* for the registration rate. \$159 per night, not including local taxes.
- Registration for the Event: *early registration* \$65 online, on the CORSA webpage.
- Questions regarding the CORSA Convention, contact the CORSA Club office at (630) 403-5010 or email (corsacluboffice@gmail.com). Website: www.corvair.org, or snail mail at: Corvair Society of America P.O. Box 68, Long Lake, MN 55356.

Social Media: Shelly Claypool

- Stay tuned for videos on the CCE Facebook page!

Activities: John DiProva for Lin Parro

- March meeting will have the annual CCE Chilli Cook-Off.
- April 12th is the Dust Off Tour- (Tentative stay tuned) – AMC Factory Museum tour.
- May Spring Tour – TBA *See Activities Calendar in the *Airhorn* for future upcoming activities.
- Any ideas for activities for 2026, please feel free to contact Lin Parro or Dee Dee Dickinson with suggestions.

Library Report: Ray Johnson for Diane Johnson

- CCE new Apparel/Spirit wear for purchase closed Feb 15th but will reopen in the spring. STAY TUNED.

Special Reports or Announcements:

- Keep an eye out for multiple "100 year Anniversary of Route 66" events happening all around this summer, like the *Great Race* and the *Hot Rod Magazine Power Tour*. It was mentioned that many of these Illinois events for the 100-year Anniversary were in *The Cook County Chronicle* for this week of February, for those who are interested.
- Garage Squad: **Jeff Wentz:** Reach out if there are any needs for the Garage Squad to assist you.

Old Business:

- No old business.

New Business:

- No new business.
- Break for the February's Sweets Auction: Final total

raised was \$257.00.

Adjourn: Motion by: Liam Coyne, Seconded by: John DiProva. Time: 8:40 PM.

Activities and Events

Lin Parro

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). Please make sure that you know what category your chili belongs in.

When the tasting is done, everyone is welcome to have a bowl of their favorite chili while the votes are being tallied. Your choice of chili toppings will be available along with various desserts and snack type items.

Each category has a winner receiving a gift card as their prize. Yes, Bean-o and Tums are on hand.

April

Sunday, April 12th, Spring Dust Off

Tentative plan is to visit the AMC museum in Kenosha, WI. Details to be announced soon. An excuse to bring out your Corvair and start getting it ready for Convention in June.

May

Sunday, May 17th, Spring Tour - to be announced.

June

General Meeting: Parking Lot Beauty Contest

This is a members participation activity. Everyone who has a Corvair drives it to the meeting to form a small car show. Members participating in the contest will need to register their car.

All members, whether you have a Corvair or not, will receive a ballot to vote for their favorite car. Categories are: Early Open, Early Close, Late Open, Forward Control, and Work in Progress. Ballots will be tallied during the business portion of the meeting announcing winners at the end of the break. All winners receive bragging rights for the year.

M-F, 6/22-6/26, CORSA Convention, Gettysburg, PA

Wyndham Gettysburg, 95 Presidential Circle SE (Corner of Rt 30 & Rt 15)

As of now you can make your hotel reservations, call the hotel direct and follow prompts to the front desk, room rate including tax is \$176.49. Check the March Communique or go to the CORSA website for registration information.

August

Sunday, August 16th, CCE Picnic, 12n-CC

Pottawatomie Park, River Pavilion. 8 North Ave., St. Charles, IL

preparations will begin around 11a to be available for use by 12n. Everyone brings their own food, cooking utensils, picnic

paper goods. There will not be a potluck unless you want to coordinate among yourselves. Unfortunately, alcohol is NOT permitted. CCE will be providing pop, water and ice.

Please note vehicles are NOT permitted to drive to pavilion to unload or to assist anyone disabled. There are plenty of attractions and activities, go to the Park's website for information. All family and friends are welcome.

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

For many, spring is here but for those who saw the groundhog's shadow and still feel the cold of winter, there are a lot of Corvair happenings. So, get ready for March.

Your March issue of the *Communique* has great information: A tech feature about the Corvair 96 by Steve Spilatro; Read about a program that got a group of student car enthusiasts from the Owls Head Transportation Museum

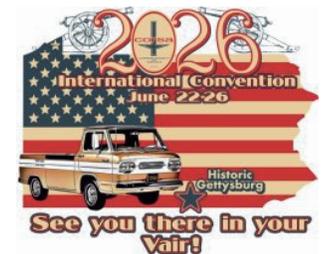
to run the 2025 Great American Race in a Corvair and place 3rd in their division. You will want to follow them as they run the 2026 race!

Also read through the section on many great events planned for the year, along with the chapter listings. You can also find them on the website: corvair.org/Current and Upcoming Events.

If you live near a chapter, join it- Chapters are a great place to learn more about Corvairs and be a part of a community of Corvair enthusiasts. covair.org/ChapterDirectory.

Did you know CORSA sells Tech Guides and books? These are written and edited by Corvair experts! Buy all four Tech Guides and have the complete book! Corvair Basics is a must for any skill level. All make great gifts too! They can be purchased here: corvair.org/SalesThroughCORSAWarehouses.

2026 in Gettysburg: Registration is now open! Register early: in this issue, you will find the paper registration form along with the detailed convention schedule. There are also articles about events and attractions. **The best way to register is online:** Log in as a member and go to "User Tools" where it can be accessed. You can also find it here: corvair.org along with updated convention news. Please note the important cutoff



dates for vendor spaces, apparel, and early registration prices. New this year: Interested in volunteering at a convention? When registering, indicate areas where you'd like to help. There is something for everyone. Contact the club office if you have any questions or issues registering: corsacluboffice@gmail.com.

Hotel reservations are still available. The Wyndham Gettysburg is the host hotel. It has both King and Double Queen rooms available for the convention. The rate is \$159 per night, not including local taxes. Please make your reservations early to ensure we fill our room block. To get the convention rate, reservations must be made before May 21st. After that date, the rate may not be available.

There are two ways to reserve: on line at wyndomhotels.com/wyndom/gettysburg-pennsylvania OR call the hotel directly. Do not call any corporate toll-free number or third-party site. Phone the hotel at 717-339-0020, select option #3 and use the name CORSA National Convention for the convention rate. A credit card will be required to hold the reservation.

Classified Ad

For Sale: 1964 Spyder convertible custom, low miles. Paul Ilosvay, (630) 673-9713. [submitted 2026-03]

Golden Quill Award

Charley Biddle

Once again, the CCE *Airhorn* has been honored to received the Old Cars Magazine Golden Quill Award.

To quote Old Cars Magazine, "Winners of the Old Cars Golden Quill Award have been carefully selected based on each publication's ability to meet the needs and preferences of club members while maintaining a high integrity in content, creativity, information, accuracy, design, variety, technical ideas and overall feel. Awards are given out in National and Regional Divisions for Compact, Intermediate and Full-Size print publications based on page count and page size of the magazines and newsletters. Speciality publications that fit this mode have also been considered."



CERTIFICATE

This award is presented annually to automotive club-sponsored publications and is tendered in recognition of outstanding efforts in the communication field of the old car hobby.

The editors of *Old Cars* honor

AIRHORN

as a 2024 recipient in the

ECONOMY-SIZE REGIONS & CHAPTERS

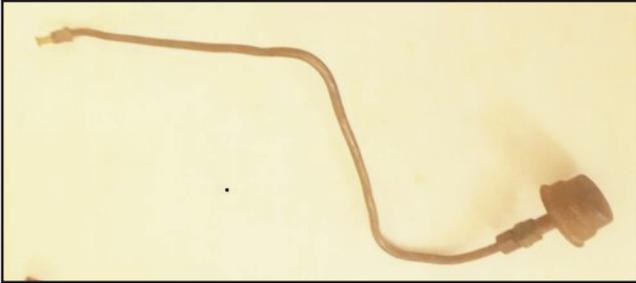


Angelo Van Bogart
Editor, Old Cars

What's It Contest Results

Charley Biddle

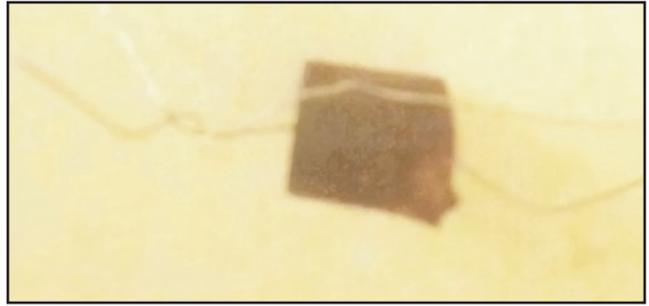
These are the results of the January What's It Contest, with enhanced and corrected answers from Larry Claypool.



1. 1962 Spyder carburetor drain pipe device, early '62 production



2. Windshield trim removal tool, late models



3. Black rubber square, late glove box limit strap

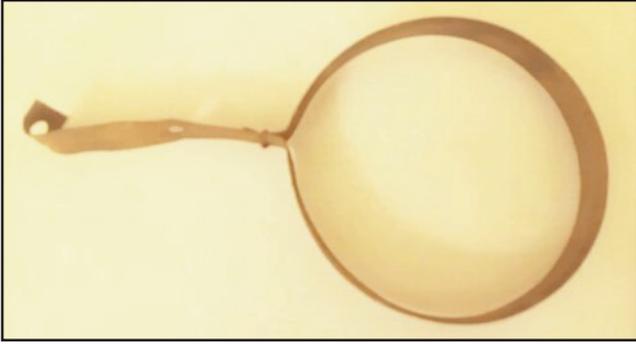


4. Black plastic handle; 60-64 car, 61-65 FC powerglide shift lever; also 64-65 FC front ventilation grill shut off door lever



5. Arm rests – top- 68 monza in black. Bottom 67 500 also black.

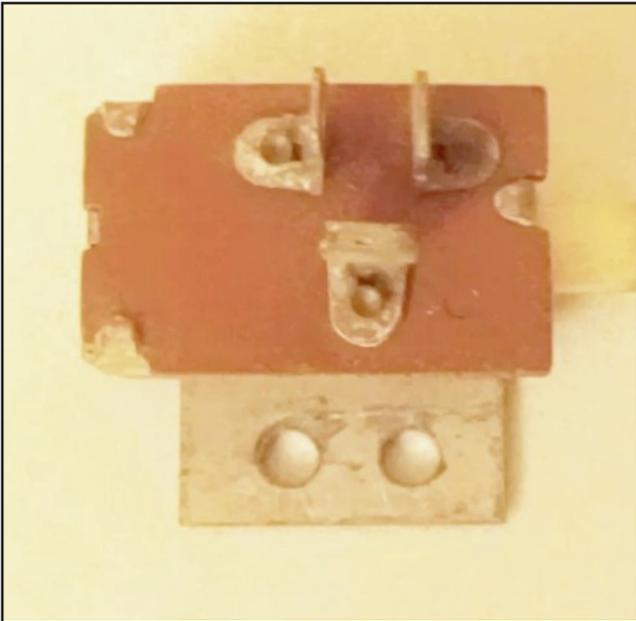




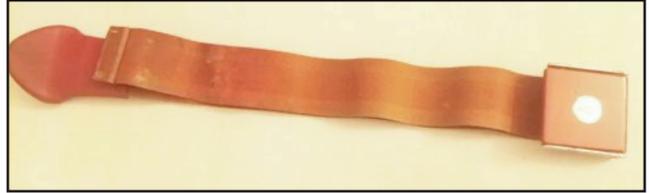
6. Heater Hose Retainer all lates model except very early 65



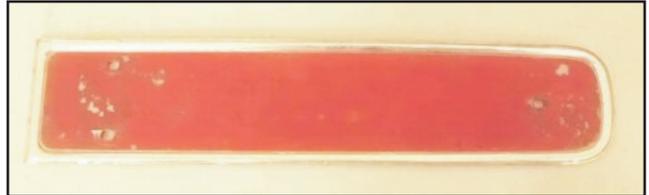
7. 1968 front side marker light, clear lens



8. Mode Switch for 65-67 with AC. Switches between heater or AC blower motor depending upon control lever position



9. 1964 deluxe Seat belt



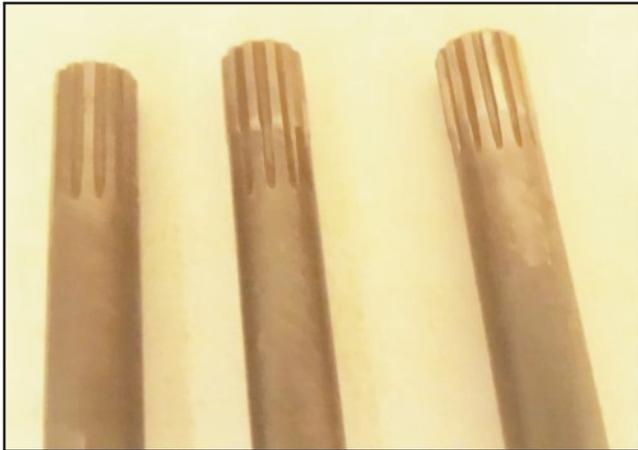
10. FC Rear reflector, DeLuxe option



11. Radio plates Top- for aftermarket 'custom fit' radio; Bottom for 1963 Delco radio



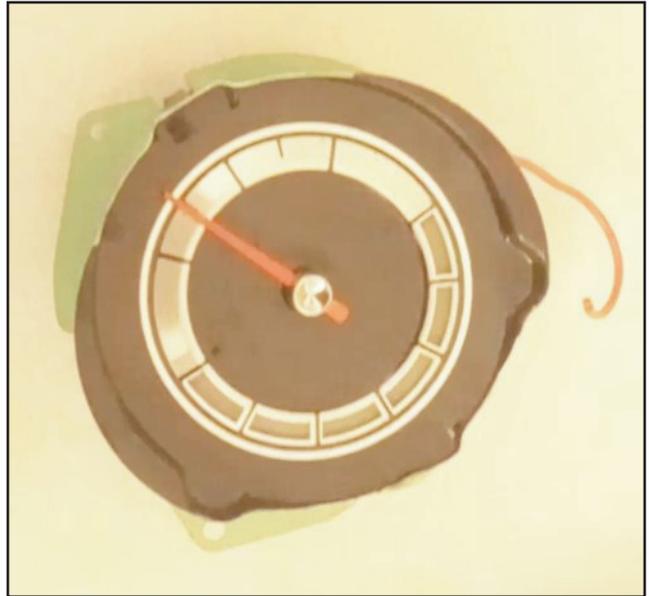
12. Battery cap vent covers for 65/66 H.D battery



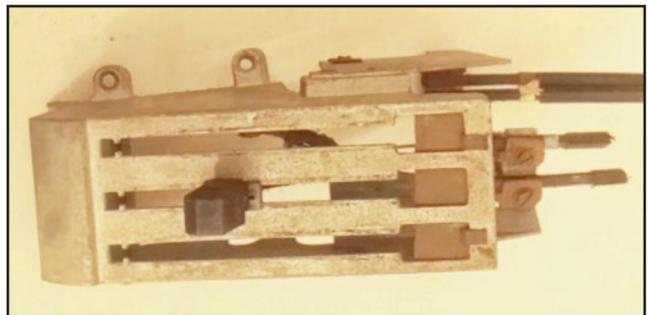
13. Transmission input shafts. all the same length, but different spline diameter for 3 different 3 speed transmissions- 60, 61-3, 64-5.



14. U-Joint cap retaining straps. Large hole-66/69; small hole 65



15. Late fuel gauge 67-9; has additional indicator light for brake



16. Heater control, 61 only (painted silver)



17. Aluminum plugs. Used on manual transmission cases, must be removed for complete rebuild

Sweets Auction Pictures

Charley Biddle

CCE held its Annual Sweets Auction at the February CCE meeting. This is a Valentine's Day oriented event. Larry Claypool served as the auctioneer. Members made, baked or bought the auction items. Proceeds were donated to the CCE treasury. Thanks to all who contributed and bought the items.



1980 CORSA Convention Picture

Charley Biddle

Here is a picture of CCE and MCC member Ed Thompson standing on the balcony above the CCE banner and the MCC banner at the 1980 CORSA Convention in Atlanta.



Stock Is...

Larry Claypool

[This article was originally printed in the December 1988 issue of the CCE Airhorn. Larry has updated it to contain information as of 2026.]

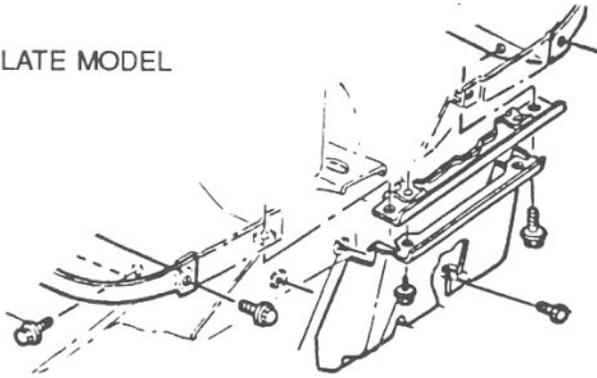
After reading last month's "Stock Is..." for the umpteenth time, I decided I should elaborate on the lower engine sheet metal a little more.

More Lower Shrouds

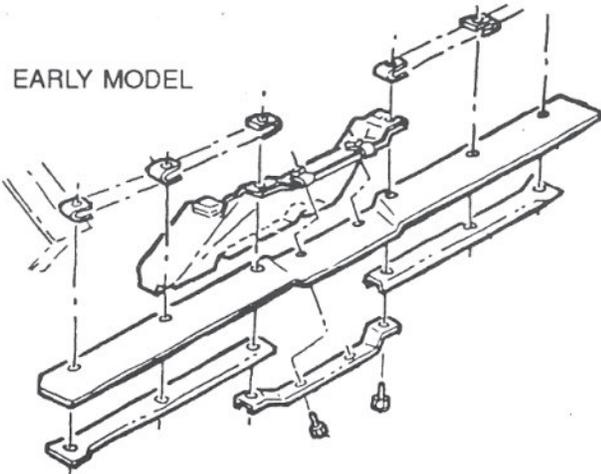
On the lower shrouds that are welded to the damper ducts in '61, it seems as though Chevy continued to frustrate the service department by retaining this practice into early '62. As there were more '62s made than anything else, your chances of running across a car so equipped is greater than you might think. Ironically, relocation of the oil pressure switch out of the lower shroud area didn't occur until after the adoption of the take apart shrouds. This of course made it easy to replace the trouble-prone oil switch that wasn't there anymore!

At the very back of the engine, the center shield covers the motor mount nuts. There are four basic differences in these shields: the '60 which fits only that year (of course), the '61-63, the '64 (and '61-63 with A/C), and the '65-69 style. All the shields are basically flat except the '64 (also '61-63 with A/C) which is bulged out near the top to clear the revised engine mounting support.[Pic01][Pic02]

LATE MODEL



EARLY MODEL



On early models the rear engine rubber sealing strip is integrated with the attachment of the center shield. When properly installed, the left and right damper door ducts and center shield all attach together to form a 1/2" wide lip at their edge closest to the grille. The rubber seal strip is then sandwiched between this lip and a metal retainer strip. The retainer uses six 5/16" hex head sheet metal screws to hold the retainer, seal strips, and shroud pieces all together. 1964 models use two additional screws to sandwich the retainer to the center shield because of its irregular shape. The rear grille then sandwiches the back of the sealing strip to the body on cars; trucks use a separate angle shaped strip which is screwed to the body. Late models use a simpler system of attachment, at least from a service standpoint. The one-piece rubber seal has a metal insert which grips the edge of the engine sheet metal. This allows it to be easily pushed on or pulled off. The gap for the rubber seal is located at the rear, in line with the oil cooler on Willow Run built cars but is centered at the front of the engine compartment on Los Angeles built cars. A piece of wide friction tape type material is used to cover the "seam". At the center shield, the seal strip attaches to a thin 90 degree angle shape sheet metal stamping that bridges the damper door ducts. The center shield in turn screws to it.

Although most of these parts are not readily visible with the grille in place, I mention them in detail because I see so many cars and trucks either running around with huge gaps between the body and engine or missing center shields. As previously noted in the *Airhorn*, incomplete sealing between the engine and the body causes a measurable increase in operating temperatures as hot air exhausted from the damper doors is

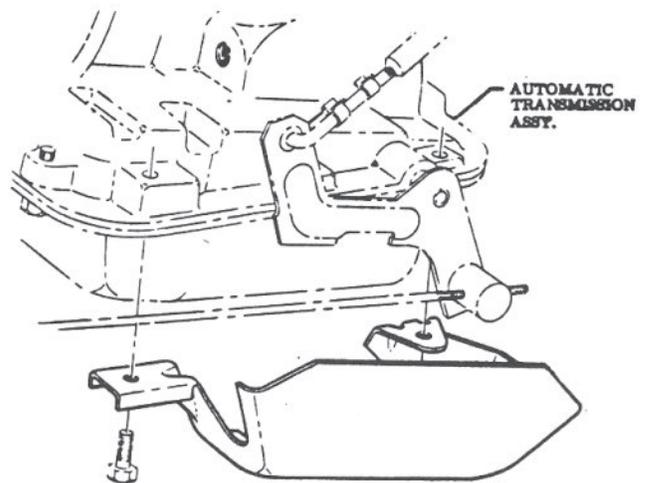
drawn *back* into the engine compartment through the leaks. Road dust and exhaust fumes can also enter through the unsealed shrouding, so do take those extra few minutes to attach all of the rubber strips and screws as they should be.

Transaxles

Okay, let's move at last along to the transaxle. There are some obvious differences in the appearance of various transmissions and differentials used over the years. Let's see if I can give you an idea of what a concours classifier might look for.

Powerglides in all years look pretty much the same with only a few exceptions. '60s use a throttle valve lever (that's the "L" shaped lever the throttle linkage connects to on the driver's side) that differs from other years by having a single hole drilled in it for attachment of the rod that goes up to the carburetor cross-shaft. The rod is retained to the throttle lever by a clip, similar to (but longer than) the ones used at the thermostat/damper door rods. In '61, the lever was revised by folding its top edge over into a "U" shape before drilling the hole for the throttle linkage. Thus, the rod passes through the lever twice, eliminating much side to side slop. The big retainer clip was replaced with one of those tiny "E" rings, fitting a groove cut into the throttle linkage.

Also revised for '61 was elimination of the throttle linkage shield, a sheet metal cover that surrounds the bottom portion of the throttle lever. It was held on by two of the pan bolts, and finished in "shroud black." This was a mid year addition to '60's, both stick and PG. Everything else remained pretty much the same until '67 when the throttle lever was once again revised. This time the lever took a deliberate 90 degree shape, losing its swoopy top "arm" that had been used since forever.[Pic03]



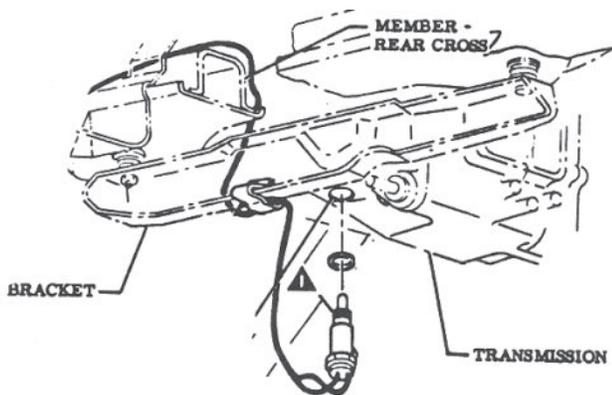
Other external Powerglide changes are limited to the oil cooler fittings and lines on forward controls models, and a blotch of orange paint on the governor and front pump cover of 140 HP transmissions (this identifies it from other run of the mill production). Speaking of paint, other than the just-mentioned 140 blotches, the case, pan, governor, pump cover, modulator, everything really, is just left in its natural finish. Blue, gold, or red transmissions — so popular with the lifetime

guarantee franchises — just don't cut it in Factory Stock concours classes.

Stick shift transmissions feature quite a few evolutionary changes. 1960s are unique (of course) with their aluminum case three-speed. The 1960 four speed never got into regular production but the few prototypes built, mostly for engineering and press testing, also featured the aluminum case.

From '61 up, all the manual transmissions utilized a cast iron case. 1961's feature a small diameter fill plug, enlarged in '62 to 1-1/16". 1962s also started use of the large red plastic "Caution Check Only" washer under that plug. That all carried over to the '63s.

1964 transmissions featured many revisions internally, but from our external point of view, elimination of the drain plug is



the distinguishing feature. This carried over into the '65s.[Pic04]

On the '61-65 four speeds, the backup lamp switch is located on the very bottom of the transmission near the mounting bracket. A black and a white wire are attached to the bottom of the switch and run forward into the control tunnel. On vehicles that were not equipped with back up lights, the case has a cup plug installed in place of the switch. The sole exception to that is the early 1961 4 speed transmission used on FC models—the transmission case is not drilled for a backup light switch since those lights were never offered for the truck line. It is also a sure indication that transmission has an extra low 4:26 to 1 first gear ratio (as opposed to the regular 3.65 to 1 used in cars.) Those transmissions were paired with the 3:27 axle ratio which turned out to be unsatisfactory with only 80HP on tap to move a loaded truck down the road once you were in 4th gear. The 3:89 differential and regular car 4 speed soon replaced the 'special' transmission, giving the same final drive ratios for both the 3 and 4 speed FC's.

The '66-69 Saginaw style 3 and 4 speeds are almost identical in external appearance but differ greatly from previous designs. Only a small cup plug on the bottom of the case distinguish the 4 speed from the 3 speed—the 4 speed uses 2, the 3 speed only 1. Other features include a large cast iron side cover with back up light switch and six transmission to differential bolts. The physical size of these transmissions is also much greater than previous models, so the mounting bracket has a considerable bend made into it to accommodate the added length.

In all years, the transmission case and covers are left in their natural finish.

Differentials, like the transmissions, went through a number of evolutionary changes. 1960-63 models have the simplest appearance, just a smooth rounded bottom with a drain plug facing forward, offset to the drivers side. For 1964, the drain plug was eliminated, although the boss for its mounting remained. The bottom of the case was revised to provide a mounting perch for the transverse leaf spring. This consisted of a machined flat area with a raised portion both fore and aft. The raised portions have one 3/8-16 hole drilled and tapped into the case for attachment of the center leaf spring cushion and retainer. A dipstick for checking the differential oil level was also added for '64, with the right side of the case duly revised to provide for the same. 1964 FCs use the same case as the car as well, even though the leaf spring attachment feature is unused. On all '60-64 differentials, the identification code is stamped into a machined flat spot, just under the left side adjusting sleeve. The numbers and letters are clearly visible, so much so that owners of a certain model should think twice about arbitrarily installing any old differential laying about, at least if a stock restoration is the goal. While it's unlikely anybody remembers (or cares) what all the letter codes are, there are certain easy combinations that come to mind. All '60 and '61 models, for example, start with the letter "B." All '62-64s start with "H." Another easy one is the Spyder model. 3.55:1 was the only available gear ratio, so the code could only be HB (3.55:1 open) or HJ (3.55:1 posi). Most other models had various ratios available, resulting in a number of correct codes. Depending on options, a '63 Monza could correctly have one of fourteen codes! As I noted, I doubt anybody remembers them all, so only the early ones need to be given a second thought. (All codes, by the way, are listed in the Tech Guide.)

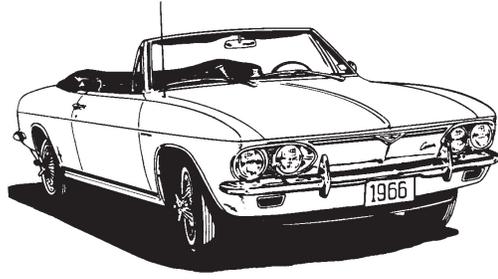
For '65, the differential was extensively revised inside and out. The bottom of the case was changed to provide four bosses and holes for attachment of the suspension strut rod brackets. Likewise, the sides of the case provide four more bolt holes. The boss for installation of the speedometer drive fitting was not drilled out except on the handful of late Greenbriers built as 1965 models. Universal joint yokes were bolted in place, and U-joints were retained by straps with 7/16" head 1/4-20 bolts.

Detail improvements for '66 called for bigger U-joint bolts, now 5/16-24 with a tall 7/16" head. Six bolts now held manual transmissions to the differential, while automatics continued as before with four. The handy axle oil dipstick was eliminated although the casting boss for it remained in the case.

Unexpected changes for '69 found the never used casting boss for a drain plug removed, as well as the boss for the dipstick. Both changes seem absurd in light of Corvair's predictably low sales that year, but nonetheless it's just one more detail that makes being stock that much harder.

Late model differential codes are stamped vertically into the unmachined case on the passenger side edge next to the transmission. They are difficult to read even when you're looking closely for them, let alone at a glance. I wouldn't worry too much about "matching numbers" here.

Lastly, as with the transmission, the whole unit is left in its natural finish except for a swipe of white paint over the code on late models. (Somebody tell the guy in charge that didn't help make them any more readable!) Till next month.



Activities Calendar

CCE Board

CCE SPONSORED OR RECOMMENDED EVENTS

Mar 11 – Board Meeting, 7:30 PM, 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 18 – General Meeting, 7:00 PM, 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 and no later.** Entertainment is Annual Chili Cook-Off.

Mar 25– Articles are due for the April Airhorn.

Apr 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.

Apr 12 – Spring Dust Off, See Activities and Events for proposed details.

Apr 15 – General Meeting, 7:00 PM, 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 and no later.**

Apr 22 – Articles are due for the May Airhorn.

May 13– 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.

May 17 – Spring Tour, See Activities and Events for proposed details.

May 20 – General Meeting, 7:00 PM, 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 and no later.**

May 27 – Articles are due for the June Airhorn.

June 10 – 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.

June 17 – 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 and no later.**

June 22 – 26, CORSA Internation Convention, Gettysburg PA. See CORSA *Co,munique* or corvir.org.

June 24 – Articles are due for the July Airhorn.

DOWN THE ROAD

July 9 – 11,- DACC Homecoming, Wyndom Garden, 2900 Jackson, Ann Arbor, MI. See detroitcorvairs.com/Homecomin2026html for more information and schedule of events.

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. Doors open at 6:30. Meeting starts 7:00 PM. We have the room until 9:30, by when the room must be cleaned up and all of us out of there.

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".



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 100 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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