



# THE *Aircooler*

**DETROIT AREA CORVAIR CLUB**

**ESTABLISHED 1974**

**Volume 6, Issue 5**

**“Corvair season starts the moment you turn the key.”**

**May 2026**

**From The Dashboard of Your DACC President,**  
Bill Vellner [mr.bill0728@att.net](mailto:mr.bill0728@att.net)

I hope everyone has noticed that our May meeting is on Star Wars Day (May the Fourth be With You). LOL The cruising season is starting and it's time to take our Corvairs out of "mothballs". Hopefully, the "critters" haven't chewed up any wiring or hoses. Don't forget to check your tire pressures and if you didn't change the oil and filter before putting your Corvair away for the Winter, now would be a good time to do so. Although we don't put many miles on our cars, there can be some nasty stuff in the oil especially if the engine doesn't get up to a good operating temperature. Keep in mind that an oil change is far cheaper than an engine rebuild, and what are Corvair owner more known for than being cheap. ;). It looks like my Corvair won't be back on the road at the start of the cruising season, but I hope to have it ready before Homecoming. Speaking of which, have you registered yet for Homecoming and confirmed your room reservations if you need to stay? Remember, an early reservation gets you "first choice" for the pizza party. Don't forget our parts vendors, both inside and outside. This is a good opportunity to buy some parts or gaskets without worrying about shipping costs. We had a good turnout for the Valve Cover race last year and I look forward to more this year. If you haven't started yours yet, I still have some bare valve covers for the really low price of free. My contact information is in the box listing your Board Members. There many other activities mentioned on the Homecoming registration  
*Continued on page 2.*

## **INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

- 1** Articles by President, Kerry Borgne
- 2** DACC Officers, VP
- 3** Meeting Minutes, Treasury, Activities, Article by Lori K.
- 4** Corvair For Sale
- 5** Homecoming form
- 6** Cover

**Make checks payable to.  
Detroit Area Corvair Club**

## **A Lesson Learned by Kerry Borgne**

My name is Kerry. I have owned Corvairs, in one form or another (and in varying degrees of condition and or repair) since I graduated from high school in Detroit Michigan in 1964. My only other hobbies, other than working under my Corvair, are photography and flying rc model planes. Both are ongoing learning experience. I have yet to master either one. My first Corvair was a 64 Monza 110, convertible, that I bought, with the help of my mom, in 1965. It was ember red with a black interior and top. When I first found the car advertised in the Detroit Free Press, my older brother and I went over to check it out. The guy was pretty nice and gave us a tour and let me drive it. We told the guy that we'd (I) would like to think about it for a bit and went home. I 'thought about it' for about, oh an hour or so and called the seller back. He had gone out but I told his wife that I wanted the car, at his asking price, and would make arrangements to complete the sale. (Translation, get the money from my mom and yes, I paid back every dime plus interest!) About three hours later the phone rang and my mom answered it. She called upstairs to me, telling me the seller was on the phone. I took the call, fearing the worst (the car was sold, seller changed his mind about selling it, he totaled it. (Such are the thoughts that go through a teenage mind!) etc., etc.) I said "hello" and the guy said and I quote "Hi, you know.... you are supposed to bargain with a seller when you buy a car!" I told him I wanted the car pretty bad and, since it was in good condition, it never entered my mind to 'bargain' He chuckled and said "Well next time you'll know better, I am going to knock \$300.00 off the cost of the car because I priced the car expecting that a prospective buyer would want to negotiate a bit" \$300.00 back in 1965 was a ton of money, especially to a teen making peanuts working for a swimming pool company filling chlorine jugs all day. I never forgot that lesson nor the guy that was so kind, and HONEST with me... That was my first Corvair and I was hooked. It was also the first in a fairly long line of Corvairs that entered my life, stayed a while and left. The latest (and likely final) Corvair you probably already have seen.  
*Continued on page 2.*

**From the Rear Deck of the DACC VP,**  
 Don Scharich [dscharich88@gmail.com](mailto:dscharich88@gmail.com)  
 Yearly checkups & Spring cleaning, we all go through. Time to do an overall inspection of our Corvairs. Checking fluids, brakes, battery, lights & tires. I've heard some even release last year's air out of tires & refill with NEW air, ha-ha. We are fortunate not having to deal with water & anti-freeze. The Corvair coolant does not boil, does not freeze. Once we have completed our inspection & gone over our check list, one thing remains. The moment of truth, with key in ignition we gently turn clockwise. Waiting for the sound; the Corvair hum saying, 'thank you, I'm ready'. This is a great time to shine them up. We're ready for new adventures to journey through the Summer & Fall. Get those sunglasses on & let's start creating smiles & bring joy to the onlookers. Don's thoughts written by little sister. ■

**President's report continued.**

Finally, I was glad to see such a good turnout for our April meeting. We had over fifty people there with one or two Corvairs and I look forward to a similar turnout in May. Maybe we can get a good representation of our Corvairs if the weather cooperates. And just in case anyone has forgotten what mine looks like; I have included a picture here. LOL ■



The World's Largest Club Dedicated To Corvair Trucks And Vans

**Corvanatics**

All Corvair FC Enthusiasts Welcome!  
[www.Corvanatics.org](http://www.Corvanatics.org)

**Lesson Learned continued.**

'Baby' as my wife named her, came to us via the internet (eBay) around 2001 about a year after my Mom passed away. I have always felt that Mom had a hand at finding this car for me. It's a 1963 1/2 Monza Spyder. 99% of it looks like a 1964 though. (Hence the 1/2). The car was listed on eBay but didn't meet the reserve price. It was located in North Carolina and my daughter, and I drove down there to see (and buy) it and bring 'baby' home to Michigan. I didn't forget the lesson learned buying my first Corvair and bargained the seller down \$500.00... I still paid too much but then again..I wanted the car..bad! The picture I've included with this article is a Gemini AI recreation of that car. It's as accurate as I could make it, right down to the 102" CB antenna mounted on the rear quarter panel. Of course it can't show the small, 1/2 dent to the right front fender, a dent that came about when I spun the car out of the John Lodge expressway during an encounter with another car during a heavy rainstorm. But that's another story.... ■



**Prep the Corvair, meeting is Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup>.**

## Like us on Facebook

**DACC OFFICERS**

President	Bill Vellner
Ph. 313-720-9101	<a href="mailto:mr.bill0728@att.net">mr.bill0728@att.net</a>
Vice President	Don Scharich
Ph. 810-813-6974	<a href="mailto:dscharich88@gmail.com">dscharich88@gmail.com</a>
Membership	Lori Komora
Ph. (734) 223-8943	<a href="mailto:Lkomora1@yahoo.com">Lkomora1@yahoo.com</a>
Editor	Adam Morenski
Ph. 586-354-5626	<a href="mailto:amorenski7636@wowway.com">amorenski7636@wowway.com</a>
Treasurer	Carol Hairsine
6374 22 Mi. Rd. Shelby Township, MI. 48317	
Ph. 586-321-9952	<a href="mailto:hairsine@sbcglobal.net">hairsine@sbcglobal.net</a>
Secretary	Ken Heberling
Ph. 248-709-3622	<a href="mailto:kenheberling@comcast.net">kenheberling@comcast.net</a>
Activities	Pete Koehler
Ph.	<a href="mailto:Pkoebler01@gmail.com">Pkoebler01@gmail.com</a>
Webmaster	John Allesee

## DACC April 2026 Meeting Minutes

Treasurer report: Current balance is \$8529.63  
Aircooler Editor: Need more articles! Articles and reports are needed by April 12<sup>th</sup> this month.  
Membership: We have 159 members plus some additional new members. See Membership report for details.

Homecoming: Need donations (pop, water, etc).  
Need goody bag items (check with local stores for donations).

Cars: 2 Corvairs made it to the meeting.

Activities report: Second Saturday event for April 11<sup>th</sup> will be at 9 am in Plymouth at Leo's Coney on Ann Arbor Rd. Then at 10 am we will go to Pete K's to put the motor into his Corsa. May meeting will have the Parking Lot Beauty Contest – with prizes! June meeting will feature Corvair toys. May 16 there is the Vintage Fest Car Show at Camp Dearborn in Milford – No entry fee.

New Attendees: Bill Kussy, new member, was in attendance. Bill is looking for a 63 Monza. Steve Till also was a first timer to the meeting. Steve has a 66 Corsa 140. Welcome guys!

Attendance: There were 55 people in attendance. The \$10 winner was Marvin Grainger. Robert Jennings won the Facebook Picture (need to get picture to Kerry Borgne).

The 50/50 brought in \$105 total. The winner of \$52 was Adam Morenski. Adam donated his winnings to the Haven House.

Swap & Sell: Full set of Door Cards for 1965 were sold to Rich B by Ian S. Eva Karas had Ladies Shrine raffle tickets for sale. Calendars are still available from John Allesee for \$5. Bill V has a clear early model windshield for \$100. DACC license plates are \$5 ea. Bill V had valve covers to make valve cover racers for free.

Story Time: Pete K shared information and stories about the Monza. He discussed the Mr Monza and the Mrs Monza cars. There were a total of 984,000 Monza's built (including 24,000 built in Canada).

Ken Heberling – Secretary ■

### 4/17/26 Treasury Report by Carol Hairsine

3/17/26 Balance \$8388.23

#### Income:

Membership \$70.00

50/50 \$105.00

License plates \$15.00

#### Expenses:

Newsletter \$216.96

50/50 Payout \$0 - Adam donated back to the club to send to Haven House.

Attendance \$10.00

4/17/26 Balance \$8351.27 ■

### Mother's Day for the year 2026 is celebrated/ observed on Sunday, May 10th.

Mother's Day is observed the second Sunday in May. It is a time to honor mothers, grandmothers, and great-grandmothers for their contribution to family and society. ■

## Activities by Pete Koehler

May! May it stay warmer? Hoping for a great start to our Corvair driving season this year. Starting off with the monthly meeting of the DACC at the Overtyme Grille and Pub in Waterford. [May 4th](#) is the date. Bring your Corvair and participate in the First Ever (Annual?) Parking Lot Beauty Contest. There might be prizes. There will be laughs and Fun! Get there between 5:30 and 6 to get a good parking spot. Meeting goes on inside with your food order followed by the regular biz meeting.

[2nd Saturday](#) Breakfast Club continues with a stop just down the street from our meeting place. [On May 9th we will converge](#) at Pop's Family Restaurant at 3330 Highland (Rt 59) Road. This is right at the corner of Elizabeth Lake Road and 59. Just a #3 Driver north from our old meeting location at the Bowling Alley. Food at 9. See you there?

The June meeting will feature a Tiny Corvair theme. Bring your favorite Corvair toy(s) to the meeting on the 1st of the month and share with all of us. I will ask if we can have an extra table set up for display.

Please bring only clean things to show off. If your scale RC model of Matt Wetzel's "MorrVair" just went through a mud pit, please rinse it off before coming inside.

There will be plenty of Cruise Night events so if you have a favorite let me know and it will be mentioned next month right here. Watch our Facebook page (Detroit Area Corvair Club) for late additions to the calendar. And pics from previous happenings. ■

## Homecoming

As you all know, we need a lot of help to pull off this event. Many things could be done beforehand that could be helpful so you can enjoy the whole weekend of events. We could use people to round up donations. You could reach out to a Pepsi distributor or a Coke distributor and see if they would donate 2 Lt pops for the occasion or water. You could reach out to O'Reilly's or AutoZone, etc., for donations. If you could reach out to any of the tire places for a donation for services, those are just a few ideas. And of course, we need goody bag items. I have to have them by the June meeting the latest, which is really pushing it to get the bags done in time.

We are always looking for people to do tech sessions or bring a vendor to do a tech session. And I know Ken and Ruth need lots of help in the kitchen. Next month at the meeting, I will have a sign-up sheet to sign up of when you can help even if it's for an hour or two that's gives the people that are there constantly a little break.

Thank you

Lori ■

**Own an FC, check out the Corvanatics ad.**

Description

1963 Corvair Spyder Convertible- Turbo Charged- 90%Restored. Beautiful 1963 Corvair Spyder Convertible Turbo with only \$27,000 miles. This triple black classic is 90% through a full restoration and has had extensive work completed. The chassis has been completely rebuilt from the engine compartment to the luggage compartment, including right to left rocker panels. Major components have already been replaced or restored, including new brakes, shocks, springs, wiring and structurally rebuilt chassis.

This is a great opportunity to own a rare turbocharged Corvair Spyder convertible that's nearly finished and ready for the final touches. Asking \$15,000. More information and details available upon request.

If you have any questions, please call me. Robert Lehman 248-250-2559. My email is [lehman48073@gmail.com](mailto:lehman48073@gmail.com)



# 46th DACC Homecoming

**July 10-12<sup>th</sup> 2026**

Included with your registration is your meals, snacks, pop, water, beer on tap, calendar with top 25 cars from people's choice, valve cover race, road rally, movie, etc

*A complete up to date schedule will be in your registration packet*

For additional information contact  
**PETE CIMBALA**  
810-621-9866 or 810-241-8593  
Email: [hcinfo@detroitcorvairs.com](mailto:hcinfo@detroitcorvairs.com)

REGISTER ON-LINE [Detroitcorvairs.com](http://Detroitcorvairs.com)

Stay informed go to our Facebook Group  
"Detroit Area Corvaair Club"

- EVERYDAY - Registration, Swap Meet, & Hospitality room
- THURSDAY - Ypsilanti Automotive Heritage Museum Lunch
- FRIDAY - Road Rally, Tech Sessions, Funkana  
- Women's Activities as posted  
- Cook Out / Picnic and Movie
- SATURDAY - People's Choice Car Show, Model & Toy Show  
- Tech Session, Valve Cover Races, Auction  
- Pizza Party **See namebadge for seating time**  
- Calendar Winners "Drive Thru" Show  
- Wine & Cheese Event (\$10 extra) Hotel guests only

*Hotel location: Wyndham Garden  
2900 Jackson Rd, Ann Arbor, MI 48103  
734-665-4444*

Register online with this link. Use group code online **070826COR** under special rates and put in code before entering date  
<https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/wyndham-garden/ann-arbor-michigan/wyndham-garden-ann-arbor/overview>  
Or call 734-665-4444 to make your reservation, be sure to mention "CORVAIR 2026" to receive the special room rate of \$114 - \$125 based on room type plus tax, per night. Book before June 8th when block is removed and the price goes up.  
**Make sure if booking online that you go to the Wyndham website not a 3<sup>rd</sup> party booking company.**

### Write your check out to "DETROIT AREA CORVAIR CLUB"

Fill in the form below and mail with check: DACC c/o Bob Wittmann 2830 Treyburn Ln., West Bloomfield, MI 48234

-----CUT HERE-----

Name (for name tag) \_\_\_\_\_ Addtl. Names \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Car Year (s) and Model (s) 2 or 4 Door \_\_\_\_\_

Did you drive your Corvaair here? Yes / No --- If yes how many miles \_\_\_\_\_ OR will you be trailering your car? Yes / No

REGISTRATION COST: SINGLE \$50.00 FAMILY \$80.00 (family consists of 2 adults & children under 18) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*If you are a young adult (18-25) on a family registration with 2 adults additional cost of \$25*

How many will be attending? Adults \_\_\_\_\_ Under 18 \_\_\_\_\_ YA \_\_\_\_\_ One Registration Pack Individual or Family/Young Adult

Indoor swap space Yes \$20 for each space No How many spaces needed \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Register & pay early for indoor swap spaces are limited*

Outdoor swap space Yes \$10 for each space No How many spaces needed \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Must provide own tables for outdoor spaces*

Wine & Cheese Event Yes Cost is \$10 per person No How many tickets needed \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Calendar \$10 (1<sup>st</sup> calendar is included) How many extra calendars \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

DACC reserve the right to reject applications at their discretion **Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Will you be participating in:** Road Rally? Yes / No Valve Cover Races? Yes / No Funkana? Yes / No

Liability Clause: Entrants and participants by execution of this form release and hold harmless Detroit Area Corvaair Club (Members and Officers), and anyone else connected with the management or presentation of this show, from any and all known damages, injuries, losses, judgments, and/or claims from any causes whatsoever that may be suffered by any entrant or participant to his or her personal property (including family members or friends).

## Parts and Services.

Show and Go Collision     Tom Cavatio  
9103 Chalmers, Detroit, MI. 48213    313-371-9085

**Clark's**  
Corvair Parts®

Clarks Corvair Parts  
400 Mohawk Trail  
Shelburne Falls, MA 01370  
413-625-9776  
413-625-8498 Fax  
clarks@corvair.com  
www.corvair.com



Check out this site and expand your Knowledge of the Corvair.

<https://www.corvair.org/>

Updated the CORSA Club Office address

**CORSA Club Office**  
PO Box 68  
Long Lake, MN 55356

The **2026 CORSA Convention** is scheduled for **June 22 - June 26, 2026**, at the **Wyndham Gettysburg Hotel & Conference Center** in Gettysburg, PA. This event is a significant gathering for Corvair enthusiasts, offering a variety of activities and events.

For more information and to register, visit the official CORSA website or the Wyndham Gettysburg hotel's website. Don't miss the chance to participate in this exciting event and enjoy the Corvair community's spirit. ■

<https://2026corsaconvention.com/>

The Aircooler – Adam Morenski  
15237 Roycroft  
Roseville, MI. 48066

### 6th Annual Dust 'em Off Car Show

Sunday, May 17th, 2026

Public Car Show Hours: 10am - 3pm  
Held at Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad  
6140 Bray Rd, Flint, MI 48505

[Registration open NOW](#)

Emails with QR Codes will go out to registered Participants soon

See Dust 'em Off Website for FULL DETAILS Click Below

[Dust 'em Off](#)

BULK RATE  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT NO.  
0000



## Links to other Corvair club newsletters

<http://www.vv.corvair.org/pipermail/chapters/attachments/20260323/d1c2e0bb/attachment.pdf>

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/545e267de4b04efe627bcf85/t/69c70dab7973c544553a5a39/1774652843315/CPC+April+2026+Newsletter.pdf>

<http://www.vv.corvair.org/pipermail/chapters/attachments/20260326/04e060e1/attachment.pdf>

<http://www.vv.corvair.org/pipermail/chapters/attachments/20260331/cf182296/attachment.pdf>

<http://www.corvair.org/chapters/chapter627/newsltr/Apr26PCC.pdf>

<http://www.vv.corvair.org/pipermail/chapters/attachments/20260402/9147a782/attachment.pdf>

<http://www.vv.corvair.org/pipermail/chapters/attachments/20260403/c87e25fc/attachment.pdf>

<http://www.vv.corvair.org/pipermail/chapters/attachments/20260408/c212b86f/attachment.pdf>

<http://www.vv.corvair.org/pipermail/chapters/attachments/20260404/3e8e2b7e/attachment.pdf>

<http://www.vv.corvair.org/pipermail/chapters/attachments/20260408/f037541f/attachment.pdf>

<http://www.vv.corvair.org/pipermail/chapters/attachments/20260412/c2971e5e/attachment.pdf>

<http://www.vv.corvair.org/pipermail/chapters/attachments/20260414/ae6734e4/attachment.pdf>

## Let's ask AI a question.

**MDOT is installing cable guardrails on the newly rebuilt stretch of I-75 in northern Oakland County because the median is now wide enough for cable barrier—and cable systems are safer, cheaper, and more forgiving than concrete in wide-median areas.** The current construction phase specifically includes “*installing cable barrier*” between Clarkston Road and Baldwin Road.

Below is the full breakdown of *why* they’re doing it.

### Why Cable Barriers Are Being Installed on I-75 in Oakland County

#### 1. **The median is wide enough for cable barrier**

Concrete barriers are used when the median is narrow.

But on this stretch of I-75, MDOT rebuilt the freeway and removed temporary pavement in the median, restoring a **wide grassy median**.

Wide medians are exactly where cable barriers perform best.

MDOT’s own project update confirms this phase includes “**installing cable barrier**” after removing temporary median pavement.

#### 2. **Cable barriers are extremely effective at preventing cross-median crashes**

Cable systems:

- Catch and absorb vehicles instead of bouncing them back into traffic
- Reduce the severity of crashes
- Are especially effective at stopping vehicles that lose control on wet or snowy pavement
- Work well on curves and grades

For high-speed corridors like I-75, this is a major safety upgrade.

3. **They are cheaper to install and maintain than concrete**

Cable barriers cost:

- Less to install
- Less to repair after a crash
- Less to maintain over decades

Concrete barriers are durable but expensive and unnecessary when the median is wide.

4. **They allow easier drainage and snow management**

Concrete walls block:

- Snow plow operations
- Median drainage
- Emergency vehicle access

Cable barriers:

- Let water flow naturally
- Allow snow to be pushed through
- Can be cut and reset for emergency access if needed

This is important in northern Oakland County's rolling, snowy terrain.

5. **They are part of the final safety upgrades for the 2023–2026 project**

The I-75 North Oakland County project includes:

- Resurfacing
- Bridge repairs

- Drainage improvements
- **Guardrail and safety upgrades**
- Final restoration in 2026

The cable barrier installation is explicitly listed as part of the final restoration work.

### Summary

MDOT is installing cable guardrails on I-75 in Oakland County because the rebuilt freeway now has a wide median, and cable barriers provide **better crash performance, lower cost, easier maintenance, and improved winter operations** compared to concrete walls. The installation is a planned part of the 2026 restoration phase of the multi-year project.

## Another AI article of interest



## **The 8 GM Motorama Cars at the Gilmore — Photos, Specs & Corvair Connections**

Here's a clean, photo-supported breakdown of all eight GM Motorama dream cars on display at the Gilmore Car Museum in 2026, with specs and a special Corvair-focused angle. These details are drawn from the official Gilmore announcement and Motorama coverage.

# The Eight Cars — Photos + Key Specs

Below are the cars in the order most commonly listed by the Gilmore and Bortz Collection sources.

## 1. 1953 Buick Wildcat I

- **Body:** Fiberglass
- **Engine:** Nailhead V8 (experimental)
- **Design Notes:** Dramatic low-slung proportions, early panoramic windshield experimentation.
- **Corvair Angle:** GM's confidence with fiberglass bodies in the early '50s helped pave the way for later lightweight-thinking that influenced the Corvair's engineering philosophy.

## 2. 1953 Pontiac Parisienne

- **Body:** Custom fiberglass over Pontiac chassis
- **Interior:** Paris-themed luxury trim
- **Design Notes:** Early exploration of “personal luxury” styling.
- **Corvair Angle:** The Parisienne's emphasis on upscale small-car luxury foreshadows the Corvair Monza's unexpected success as a premium compact.

## 3. 1954 Pontiac Bonneville Special

*(Two colors exist; the orange car appears in the images above.)*

- **Body:** Fiberglass
- **Engine:** 268ci straight-eight
- **Design Notes:** Bubble canopy, jet-age cues, dramatic fender lines.
- **Corvair Angle:** The Bonneville's bubble-top and wraparound glass influenced GM's later fascination with airy cabins — seen in the Corvair's thin pillars and large glass area.

## 4. 1955 Chevrolet Biscayne

- **Body:** Fiberglass
- **Doors:** Four-door pillarless with **suicide rear doors**
- **Windshield:** “Stratospheric” wraparound

- **Corvair Angle:** The Biscayne's clean, uncluttered surfaces and thin roofline are echoed in the early Corvair sedans, especially the 1960–61 models.

## 5. 1955 LaSalle II Roadster

- **Body:** Fiberglass
- **Engine:** Experimental V6 (mock-up)
- **Design Notes:** Compact proportions, advanced grille and headlamp treatments.
- **Corvair Angle:** Its compact size and sporty intent parallel the Corvair's role as GM's small, agile offering.

## 6. 1955 LaSalle II Sedan

- **Body:** Fiberglass
- **Engine:** Experimental V6 (mock-up)
- **Design Notes:** Futuristic roofline, hidden headlights, and clean flanks.
- **Corvair Angle:** The LaSalle II's compact luxury theme is a spiritual ancestor to the Corvair Monza and later the Corvair Corsa.

## 7. 1960 Pontiac X-400 Convertible

- **Body:** Custom full-size fiberglass
- **Engine:** Supercharged V8 (Latham blower)
- **Special Features:** Rain-a-tronic roof, dual-mode exhaust, console-mounted 4-speed
- **Corvair Angle:** The X-400's experimental tech reflects the same GM culture that green-lit the Corvair's rear-engine layout and advanced suspension.

## 8. 1964 Pontiac XP-833 Banshee

- **Body:** Lightweight fiberglass
- **Engine:** Inline-6 or V8 (depending on prototype)
- **Design Notes:** GM's "too good" Mustang/Corvette fighter that was cancelled to protect Corvette sales.
- **Corvair Angle:** The Banshee's compact sports-car mission overlaps with the Corvair Monza GT and Monza SS concepts — all part of GM's early-'60s small-performance experimentation.

# 🛞 Corvair-Focused Summary: How These Motorama Cars Connect

GM's Motorama era (1949–1961) was the **styling and engineering incubator** that directly shaped the Corvair. According to Hemmings, many Motorama design elements — **panoramic windshields, sweeping lines, lightweight materials** — later appeared in production cars like the **Corvette and Corvair**.

## Key Corvair Influences

- **Fiberglass experimentation** → informed GM's comfort with unconventional materials and layouts.
- **Compact luxury concepts** (Parisienne, LaSalle II) → foreshadowed the Corvair Monza's upscale pivot.
- **Jet-age glass and rooflines** (Bonneville Special, Biscayne) → echoed in Corvair's airy cabin and thin pillars.
- **Small-car performance ideas** (Banshee, LaSalle II Roadster) → paralleled the Corvair's sporty variants and concept cars.



## HOME COMING

Call the QUALITY INN (313) 455-8100 and mention DACC or CORSA or Corvaair Homecoming for special \$49 rate. (NOTE: Same Inn, new name!) 40455 Ann Arbor Rd, Plymouth 48170

Big doings all weekend..Call Elaine Duerdon (810) 674-3318 or write to DACC HOMECOMING 4365 Elmdale, Clarkston, MI 48346 for the registration package and information. **Volunteers are still needed!**

## GOING PLACES DOING THINGS

### NOTICE OF ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES!!

**Saturday, May 13** is the date of the MICHIANA CORVAIR CLUB's 12th ANNUAL MINI SWAP MEET. It is to be held at the home of Al & Betty Grunert. 1033 Bates Ave, Three Rivers, MI (616) 279-5090. Things get started at 8:AM, Free spaces, Door Prizes, Peoples Choice Show, and Long Distance Award. Lunch is available.

**SUNDAY, MAY 21** the Michigan Chapter of the Pontiac/Oakland Club will hold their 11 Spring Dustoff. Rain or shine, \$2 donation with plenty of free parking nearby. Start time is 9:AM and awards are given at 3:PM. **Call (810) 548-6129** for more information.

**SATURDAY, MAY 27 (& 28)** is the FRANKENMUTH ANTIQUE AUTO FEST at the Heritage Park. Feature vehicle is Studebaker. Gates open at 10:AM with Arts & Crafts, Antiques, Auto Parts, and a 4:PM Poker Run. **Sunday** open is 8:AM with Parts, Antiques, etc. & a Judged Auto Show. Prizes awarded at 4:PM. **JEFF SHREVE** would like to put together a DACC group for the Saturday Poker Run. Call Jeff (810) 236-1806, day - (810) 695-4526, ev For general info call (517) 662-4205 4 to 9

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY, JUNE 9 & 10** the Caro Chamber of Commerce presents Fine Arts & Crafts, Pony rides, Childrens rides, and a Saturday Car Show. Call **Carl Malott (810) 686-8362** for more information.

Cass City will celebrate the 4th of July on **SATURDAY, JULY 1**. The DACC will caravan to

this parade, as usual, with that info to come in the next "AIRCOOLER".

For those that would like a long distance adventure, **SEPTEMBER 8, 9, & 10** in Portland Oregon, there will be a CORSA SANCTIONED EVENT. Call (503) 246-5692 for info.

If you miss the 1st Frankenmuth event try **SEPTEMBER 9 & 10** with the Country Street Machines Car show & Saturday night cruise, Sunday show with trophies awarded at 3:PM. Corvairs fit into the 60-70 open or 60-70 closed. **Call (517) 652-6964 - 517) 652-3186**

If you know of other events please contact your editor!

## DACC & SLOAN MUSEUM

The Detroit Area Corvaair Club, some 140 members strong, has consistently been active in museum exhibits that further the interest in the Corvaair Automobile.

1986 saw "Corvaair Mania" at the Sloan Museum in Flint, Michigan. The exhibit was a setting for Electrovair (all Series II 4-doors should have looked this good.) I remember seeing it being built in its early stages; the metal shop must have spent a week meta-finishing the surfaces and aligning the panels. Then came a cool blue paint job - no Earl Shieb here! Next, a fuel injected engine display, many parts sent from here and there, old GM sources and, finally, an engine block donated by Pete Koehler which only then resulted in a complete fuel injected engine. Finally, he newly restored GM experimental Asro I in its original colors. Saved from a dismal warehouse, your author and Pete Koehler helped bring this wonder back with the help of then Design VP, Chuck Jordan. A remarkable memory includes parking a late-model Corvaair next to the Astro I and comparing the heights...the Astro I rising only to the late model's belt line!

The year is 1994 and the DACC returned to the Sloan Museum, somewhat wiser, experienced and with a budget from the Sloan! May, 1994 through October 1994, the theme: "Tomorrow's Car Built Yesterday."

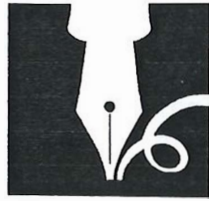
## Meeting

by Kim Carless

**Regular Meeting:** Tuesday, April 4, 1995, new President, Rob Duerdon, called the group to order at 7:43 P.M.. His opening statement was that there's not much Corvair going on. The new VP, Norm King was busy selling 50/50 tickets. The meeting began with officers reports. Treasurer, Jean King stated that the balance is \$1797.76. New Membership Director, Clark Hartzel noted that membership is 161 to 105 depending on how we count paid vs. unpaid memberships. Roughly 30 expired this far in 1994. Parade Chairman & Editor, Sharon Pepke mentioned the May 20th Berkley Parade and the need to register. There were 4 potential drivers at the meeting. Parts & Service, Bob Kirkman, observed that the videos are getting good reviews, and encouraged members to buy parts. Bob brought in several AM radios to give away. They were all gone by the end of the evening. Norm King mentioned the shirt, hats, bumper stickers and decals for sale. Jeff Shreve, Activities Director, talked about activities in Livonia, Flint, Brian Ohio, and Frankenmuth. John Z. confirmed the Mayflower reservation for the Homecoming and Bob K. has arranged for a Friday tour of the Nash Museum. We need Homecoming volunteers. It's fun ! Remember the dates are August 25,26 & 27. Register early with a credit card (it will cost you nothing now), mention Corvair Club or CORSA and the rate is \$49. Secretary, Kim Carless, had no comment. There were 3 guests. There was a display of magazines on the table.

Stu Shuster treated us to great a slide show featuring Corvair related moments in history, scenery driving shots, rare models and clay hopefuls. The show lasted from 8:00 to 9:00, with many amusing comments from the Corvair nut gallery.

Swap & sell was followed by the 50/50, \$33.50 won by Dave Guindon, and then the chip dip, \$10 won and lost by Willie Thomas. A tune up kit raffle was won by Roy Cartwright. Ab Ives is back and so are the donuts and goodies. There were about 12 people at the Modern Deli and 55 at the regular meeting. The next board meeting will be Tuesday, *April 11* th at Pete Cimbala's home, in Flint.



**Board Meeting:** The meeting was held as planned at Pete Cimbala's, in Flint. In attendance were Bob & Adele Kirkman, Kim Carless, Rob & Elaine Duerden, Clark Hartzel. John Zelenak, Jim & Marilyn Westervelt, Norm & Jean King, Jeff Shreve, Harold Dexter, and Don Harbin of the US Post Office. Ken Pepke visited by phone. Topics of discussion included:

- 35th Corvair Commemorative Postal Cancellation souvenirs (we selected one of three sketches created by Don Harbin)
- Homecoming registration form details
- Homecoming awards (going with plaques)
- Early bird rate for Homecoming registration (motion passed for \$5 break based on postmark date)
- Sloan looking for ways to raise funds
- Jean King looking for free DACC checking
- Membership cancellation for non payment of dues (resolved to follow the DACC by-laws which state that members will be dropped if dues are not received within the month they are due) (John Z. & Adele K. volunteered to call delinquent members)
- Need a topic for next month's meeting
- Rob D. is reordering the meeting structure
- Norm K. has a source for quality lapel pins

Thanks from all of us to Pete C. and friend Pam, who put out a beautiful spread of food, snacks and beverages for us to enjoy during our long hours of deliberation and decision making.

### CONT FROM PG 1

This was a well designed exhibit by Mark Luther, an Architectural doctoral candidate from U of M. Used was a unique sign featuring the theme slogan by Carl Luther and Bob Greer. Sidethought; by now the Luthers will be residing in Australia with not only their families, but their Corvair!

Many items were featured in the exhibit, some from the Corvair Preservation Foundation and others from DACC membership. Original designs, displayed by Carl Renner, then a staff designer under Ned Nickles, chief of an advanced Chevrolet studio in the late 50's.

This year's show cars included, once again, the Astro I, still remarkable in concept after all these years and many new designs.





As time, as we rolled the Astro into the exhibit, a group of school children happened by. It was like they had seen a flying saucer! Also a returning item was the Chevrolet Corvair engine display, newly adjusted, but not for long. As the 6-month period passed, Bob Kirkman of Chevrolet engineering fame, adjusted the gear lash no more than two times and discovered the rotating tire had been "Armoralled to death" which allowed it to slip on the rotating metal drum. Great for Auto-crossing! Soon, all functions save for the internal lighting ceased. Not to worry - by the time the engine display reaches the CPT Museum in Richmond, Virginia, it will be good as new!

The Sloan helped out this time with a budget which allowed the purchase of vertical hanging banners and colored carpets to highlight vehicle displays. Many new items were shown - tiny toy Corvairs, a Huffy "Corvair" bicycle from Harold Dexter, a racing display from Byron Shaw (Byron took up racing upon his retirement - in a Yenko!) And even a set of gold Corvair cuff links showed up, loaned by Ken and Linda Hand.

On to full size type Corvairs - the real stuff. A 1969 red Monza coupe was displayed in the center of the exhibit. This car was in Bill Mitchell's collection while he was VP at GM styling. Unique features in this car include Corvette-type rear exhausts bezels framing the chrome pipes. Also shown: IECO/Holly carburetor set-up with a unique exhaust manifold heater attached to the intake chamber; no cold running here!

Now, let's talk about some of the Club members' cars. Ed Kriewall, of Corvair REproduction Sheet metal frame, showed a beautiful 1960 white coupe. Jim Westervelt brought his 1961 red Lakewood. At the completion of the show in October, a starter required replacement and Jim ran out of gas on the way home. Nasty! Earl Wright, a Flint resident, showed a beautiful 65 Monza with special ignition and carburation. Dave Taylor's blue 65 Monza convertible had a beautiful paint job - flawless - mostly because he is a professional painter! Then there was the bright red 61 Rampside in immaculate

condition and belonging to John Wolford. Displayed on its load bed ramp was Harold Dexter's Monza Jr. Go-Kart. Jerald Flinn showed an original 60 500 sedan...can you get any purer than this?

One more item about the Astro I - when the exhibit came down in October, your writer sat inside and steered as others pushed it out of the exhibit area. What a bizarre experience! Your seating position is very low and you look forward between the fender peaks...imagine this going 150 MPH on I-75 going north someday!

At the end of the exhibit, videos featuring Corvair Classics such as "From Here to There", "Daring the Darrien", and "The Methodical Man" ran continuously. (A note here, when running tapes such as the aforementioned, plan on making many copies from a master as they wear out!) The Museum provided a large, hanging TV monitor right over Jim Westervelt's, Lakewood! The attachment bolts held!

As a promotional detail, our chapter provided, in co-operation with the Sloan Museum, a cut-out paper Monza coupe by your author and a custom hand out brochure by Bob Greer. I would point out here that Bob, a retired As executive, contributes greatly in all PR support with professional materials. All chapters should have someone like Bob.

So that's the story...somewhat late...but important to report. The story will continue commencing May 1, 1995 in Richmond Virginia at the new Corvair Preservation Foundation Museum under the guidance of Wade Lanning, Cecil Miller, and Dave Newell

**STU SHUSTER**

## **DACC PARTS MART**

**WITH OVER \$1000 IN STOCK**

**FOR YOUR IMMEDIATE NEEDS**

**SEE BOB KIRKMAN**

**AT MEETINGS OR CALL (810) 628 2431**



## TECH TOPICS

As Editor, the Pepkes receive newsletters from other CORSA chapters and forward them to me for review of tech type articles. The Connecting Rod (CORSA ATLANTA) of 9-94 had an excellent article on paint. I sent it to Jerry Roberts for review. He advised dollar values to better represent prices in our area. **Bob Kirkman**

### **PAINT JOBS: \$200 Or \$2000?** what's the diff? by Ted Fahrenthold

Paintjobs comes in many colors as well as almost equality varied levels of quality and price. I will attempt to categorize some of the different levels so that those with less auto body knowledge can be more knowledgeable shoppers when looking for these services. I will focus first on paint work itself ignoring body work, stripping, or parts removal labor.

Cheap paint jobs for example MAACO, EARL SCHEIB, PEACH AUTO PAINTING, ECONOPAINT. These paint services generally off brand Synthetic Enamel paint (paint cost approx. \$60-120 per car. This type of paint is cheap, soft, not very chip resistant, has a great deal of texture, and fades easily (good for about 1 to 3 years).

\$200-\$500 range. Your vehicle will be dry hand sanded with about 320 grit sand paper (this will allow the paint to stick but will not remove any paint chips, scratches, or blemishes. The trim, emblems, windows will be masked (not removed) and the car sprayed with just enough paint to get coverage.

\$500-\$1000 Same as above but usually add additional dry sanding with a random orbit sander to remove major chips and scratches (unfortunately most production paint shops have a hard time keeping experienced machine sanders due to low wages, often results in sander marks showing in finished product). Usually primer sealer is used before the paint to improve adhesion.

\$600-\$1200 Including all above but using some sort of acrylic enamel or inferior topcoat/clearest system. little better durability.

Middle of the road paint jobs \$1000-\$1800 . Using name brand acrylic enamels, polyurethane enamels, or urethane enamel single stage or color coat clear coat paint systems and sometimes name brand Basecoat/Clearcoat urethanes. Paint cost approx. \$120.00-\$400 per car. These paints range from moderately durable to very durable, more fade resistant, texture is dependent on the quality of the painter, longevity approx. 2-6 years.

Preparation prior to painting will vary from shop to shop, many will machine sand chips and scratches, spot prime to fill blemishes, some will hand wet sand (better than dry sanding) , usually include full sealer cost prior to painting. Some trim may be removed before painting. Car may receive some buffing after paint to remove minor dust (note: all repaints will have

some dust in the finish regardless of paint booth quality). It pays to ask many questions to determine exactly what you getting for your money.

Top quality paint jobs \$1500 and up. Usually name brand Basecoat/Clearcoat urethane, Colorcoat/Clearcoat, or hand rubbed lacquer. Paint cost per car \$300-\$600 or more. Preparation generally the same as Middle of the road jobs. Often include trim removal. Here again ask many questions. Almost always include color sanding and buffing of finished paint for that smooth perfect, factory or better appearance.

Lacquer is less durable than most enamel finishes, prone to chipping and fade (can be rebuffered to a high shine) easy to repair and blend in. Urethanes are the toughest paints on the market, extremely high gloss, chip resistant, low texture, easy to repair and blend in. Longevity 3-6 years or more.

Door Jambs, under hood, and under trunk. In order to do a thorough paint job on these areas it is necessary to remove the doors or lids from the vehicle, many shops will paint these areas with the panels installed for a reasonable sum but the results are far from perfect. Removal of these panels is time consuming and therefore costly. If you want it done right be prepared to pay for it.

Before painting, body work is often necessary. What is body work? Generally body work includes stripping of old paint, straightening dents, repairing rust, removal and installation of any parts or trim . In Atlanta the current rate for body work \$26 per labor hour. Below I will give you some general guidelines to determine reasonable costs for body repair operations.

Stripping. Stripping of the old paint finish is not always necessary prior to repainting. Stripping is indicated if the old finish is cracking (often small and hard to see, may look like it has been scratched with a scouring pad), peeling, or has many chips in a small area. Stripping is also indicated if there are more than 3 layers (previous repaints) or sometimes only 2 layers if the applications were heavy. It takes approx. 3 hours (\$78) to strip and prime the average side panel of a car (as in 1 door, or 1 fender). hood, roofs and trunk lids take about 4-5 hours depending on size. Figure about 30-40 hours (plus trim removal) to strip a whole car, approx. \$750-1000.

Dents. Dents are repaired by hammering metal to approx. shape and using body filler to achieve final contour, or by damaged area can be estimated by the Hand method. Take your hand fingers extended but not full spread and place over the damage, the area covered by one hand will take an hour to repair, a dent three hands big will take approx. . 3 hours. Any damage smaller than one hand will take 1 hour. Body lines and complex contours will require more time.

Rust. Rust is generally repaired in one of three ways, filling with body filler, cutting out rust and fabricating a metal patch, or metal the rusted panel. Rust repair by filling (fiberglass or bondo) is the least lasting repair, estimate cost using the hand method as for dents. Rust repair by cutting and welding is the best repair short of replacement. Keep in mind that the metal must be cut away well beyond the visibly damaged area, and that welding should be done with a mig welder not brazing



**TREASURY**

	<b>PETE</b>	<b>CIMBALA</b>	
18/FEB/95 BALANCE			\$1517.09
Bank charge - Jan	\$ 23.03		
Bank charge - Feb	23.46		
Meeting room rental	35.00		
Bob Greer / forms	19.34		
TOT EXP.	\$ 100.83		
			\$1416.26
50/50	\$ 36.00		
SALES - parts	126.00		
Dues	183.00		
Bumper sticker sale	1.00		
Tune up kit raffle	35.00		
TOT INCOME	\$381.50		
11/MAR/95 BALANCE			\$1797.76

**MEMBERSHIP**

MEMBERSHIP REPORT by Clark Hartzel

Membership in DACC is \$12.00 per year. Make check payable to Detroit Area Corvair Club and mail to 16911 Anita, Fraser, MI 48026.

Memberships expired in April. This is your last newsletter:

Calvin Brown	Michael McFarland
William Kappen	Jeff Shreve
Lucy Stern-Marsh	Donald Wood

Memberships expire in May:

Dave Holtz	Charles Schneider
Pete Minea	Dan Weir
Paul O'Donnell	

Memberships expire in June:

John Bryan	James Morton
Pete Cimbala	Jerry Roberts
Robert Duerden	Fred Sharpe
Tom Goodart	Noel Wicklund
Albert Ives	Robert Wilson
Albert Morgan	Stephen Zacharias
Norm Morris	

Memberships expire in July:

Charlie Baker	Greg Mahaffey
Thomas Cazabon	Frank Pavlovic
Lisa Eickhoff	Ken Pepke
Stephen Kastle	William Thomas
Joseph Kastelan	Robert Wilke

**CONT FROM PG 4**

or acetylene welding. Cost can be estimated by using the hands method but each hand is 2 hours.

Parts replacement. Labor costs of parts replacement vary greatly from part to part and car to car. Newer cars are estimated using flat rate manuals, older cars (CORVAIRS) are estimated by experience or by guess. For Corvairs changing a front fender is a 13-15 hour job, 1/4 Panel: 14-16 hours, floor complete excluding stiffeners 30-40 hours, hood or decklid: 1hr, remove and reinstall complete interior 8-12 hours, etc.

In summary, when it comes to painting and repair of auto bodies you often get what you pay for. If you buy cheap you get cheap. On the other hand there are a lot of poor quality shops around with top quality prices. The best advise to keep from getting burned is use a shop of person that you know or have reference from. Ask lots of questions about how the work will be accomplished, what exactly will be done, and what type of materials will be used. Also do not rush the work, all shop want to get the work done as soon possible because they want to get paid. If they ask for more time there is almost certainly a good reason. A job that took a little longer but was done right is much better than one finished poorly in a rush to get done.



**SELL & SWAP**

FOR SALE: 5 early & 1 late California Vair (1) 61 wagon, (3) 61 cpes (1) 62 cpe (1) 65 turbo cpe all ready to restore. To arrive in March or April (I had to buy 8 to get 2 I wanted) sell for cost & shipping. Tim Bramble (810) 623-0113 eves.

FOR SALE: New early model clear w/s \$135. Pair 140 heads, rebuilt completely, exception only clean / excess flash removed \$400pr Many new & rebuilt mechanic parts available Can assist with tune-ups, Bob Kirkman, call (810) 628-2431 (Leonard)

FOR SALE: 67 cpe, w/ 3 speed, little body rust, many extras; 2-4 spd transaxles, 1 is rebuilt - 2 drive shafts - new front cross-member, brakes & bearings redone, good eng. Call Tom (616) 842-7899 (Spring Lake)

FOR SALE: 68 w/110 hp auto. Roadworthy, New heat hose & cable, valve seals, brake lines & cylinders. Light green, tan int. 14" rally wheels. \$1500 OBO Howard Brunini (519) 979-1131 after 5:PM (Windsor, Ont)  
WANTED: Powerglide transmission. Call Wayne (313) 525-7496

**The DETROIT AREA CORVAIR CLUB Inc** is a charter chapter of the **CORVAIR SOCIETY of AMERICA**

**The Officers are:**

President .....	Rob Duerden	(810) 674-3318	4365 Elmdale	Clarkston	MI 48346
Vice President .....	Norm King	(810) 621-3241	10405 Corunna Rd	Swartz Creek	MI 484
Secretary .....	Kim Carless	(810) 674-3662	4124 Lamont	Waterford	MI 48329
Treasurer .....	Jean King	(810) 621-3241	10405 Corunna Rd.	Swartz Creek	MI 48437
Membership .....	Clark Hartzel	(810) 293-1587	16911 Anita	Fraser	MI 40826
Editor .....	Sharon Pepke	(810) 759-4865	25760 Pineview	Warren,	MI 48091
Parts & Service ..	Bob Kirkman	(810) 628-2431	1820 Moffat	Leonard	MI 48367
Activities .....	Jeff Shreve	(810) 695-4526	3501 Town Hall	Grand Blanc	MI 48439
Parade Chairman .	Sharon Pepke	(810) 759-4865	25760 Pineview	Warren	MI 48091

Regular monthly meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM. The meeting place is the Royal Oak Senior Community Center located on Marais, (between N. Main/Livernois & Crooks Rd) north of 13 Mile Rd. in Royal Oak, MI. Members are encouraged to attend, and, guests are welcomed.


**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 15TH OF THE MONTH**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- MAY 2 Regular Monthly Meeting
- MAY 20-21 Motor City Classic / GM Tech Center
- MAY 21 State FG swap meet, Armada Fairgrounds
- MAY 27-28 Frankenmuth AACA car show
- JUN 6 Regular Monthly Meeting
- JUN 11 Carnival of Cars
- JUL 1 Cass City Parade
- JUL 15 Leonard Strawberry Fest
- AUG 25-27 **DACC HOMECOMING**
- SEP 4 Romeo Peach Fest
- SEP 9 Saline Parade
- SEP ? 30 Huron Apple Fest
- OCT 14 Fall Color Tour
- OCT 15 Irish Hills AACA swap & sell



CALL JEFF SHREVE FOR FURTHER INFO. (810) 695-4526 eves

THE  
 **AIRCOOLER**  
 25760 Pineview  
 Warren, MI 48091



First Class

