

West Florida Corvair Club



The chronic Corvair May 2026-Happy Mother's Day!

West Florida Corvair Club #325

In this issue:

1. Minutes
2. What Is Expected of our Membership
3. The Wonders of Technology
4. How Corvair Lovers Celebrate Life
5. Did You Know?
6. Happy Birthday & Anniversary
7. Tech Tips or Articles
8. Looking Back
9. Chit Chat by June Lindsay
10. Coming Events
11. Club Stores
12. For Sale/Corvair Parts
13. Advertisements
14. Club Information/How to Contact Us

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1.MINUTES:

There were no minutes for April as we attended Springfest in Helen, GA April 17 & 18.



Everyone should attend at least one Springfest car show in Helen, GA. Springfest and the Homecoming Shows in Michigan both gives a glimpse at what goes on at a National Convention. Springfest once judged the National Concours Corvairs and gave them special awards like at the National Concours. The Concours Corvairs would get a good evaluation of what they might need to do to restore their Corvair so they can enter the Concours at a National Convention. Unfortunately, Springfest no longer Judge the Concours Corvairs any more and only have a Peoples Choice Car Display. But that's not all, they have other Convention events like a Funkana, a Rally and an Autocross.

Several other members that we don't see as much attended the 2026 Springfest as well. Besides Ed and June Lindsay and Gary and Mary Mierzwa, and David Legerton and his friend Grace, those attending were: Erik and Darren Grill from the New Orleans Enthusiasts Club; Titus Stewart and Lisa Sherri, Titus is president of CORSA and also a member of our club; Steve Lambert stopped by our vending tables for a short period; Allan Slusher's brother Bill also vended next to us and we enjoyed talking with Bill and his wife Joy and granddaughter Audrey. Some of the Slusher family will be in town in May and are planning to attend our picnic on May 17th in Howard Furr's big garage.



Above are a few of our friends at Springfest hanging out at our vending tables. Bill Slusher is sitting on the table by Mary Mierzwa. Ed Lindsay is to her right. Gary Mierzwa is peeking around to the left.



Ken and Beth Hand and their buddy Tom Burgess were also vending with us. Rob Amsler from CFC is also standing by in the picture above.



Darren and Erik Grille at Springfest from the New Orleans Club



David Legerton at Springfest



David Legerton and his friend Grace

Ed Lindsay and Gary Mierzwa were inside vendors this year. There were less vendors this year than last year. In a way having less vendors was good for Ed and Gary as they did very well in sales. June Lindsay sold our club stores items and held a Raffle for a Blouse, necklace and earrings for our Cat and Dog Rescue Charity. She and Mary Mierzwa held down the fort as usual while Ed and Gary enjoyed the outside vending area, the Corvair Display and Autocross. Our club always sees Springfest from a vendors point of view. Remember our article about Stan Gee when a tree fell on his beige and white Corvair Van during a horrible storm? Stan replaced his Beige and White Corvair Van with a Blue and White Corvair Van. Howard Furr embroidered a beige hat with a beige and white Corvair Van on it and also a Blue Hat with a blue and white Corvair Van on it. Stan bought the blue hat but could not bring himself to buy the beige one too. His

other half, Angela Blanks, later bought the hat with the beige and white Corvair Van as well.



Stan's Old Corvair Van after Storm



Angela Blanks with Stan's new Corvair Van

We enjoyed talking with Angela and Stan at Springfest. Angela won the blouse, necklace and earrings that June Raffled off for our cat and dog charity. We were able to make \$30 toward our charity and our rescue dogs and cats thank Springfest very much.



Another view of the Car Display



The Autocross



In the picture above is the Fasthale where the Hospitality and Awards Dinner were held. It has a stage where Registration, Door Prizes and the Valve Cover Races are held. On Saturday, in this area they held a Tech Session and Bingo. Jeanette Bitman also held a Yoga Session. Friday nights Hospitality Dinner had Hot Dogs and Hamburgers, beans and Nachos. After the Hospitality Dinner they had Valve Cover Races. Mary and Gary Mierzwa joined the Valve Cover Races and did not place. The Cheech family did not win this year. Another woman won the races for the first time in years.

At the awards ceremony, our friend Richard Payne presented the Colors and there were flags of all of the U.S. Military around the festhalle. All military were called up to stand in front of their flag the the branch of service that they served in. In the picture below, Ed Lindsay and Titus Stewart are standing in front of the U.S. Marines flag in the middle of the line and Gary Mierzwa and David Legerton are standing in front if the U.S. Navy Flag at the very end in the Red and Blue Shirts. Sorry the picture is not so good; but we wanted to include it anyway to honor all of our military.



Last year at Springfest, we were all impressed with a little green four door '60 Corvair owned by Abigail Marino and thought she should have won the Best of Show. Sadly, it did not happen. This year, Abigail completely restored here Corvair and it was beautiful and she won Best of Show. Her display was vary nice as well with vintage luggage and blankets. She got a rousing applause

at the Awards Ceremony! This year they had around 100 beautiful Corvairs in the Car Display.



Abigale's '60 4DR



Abigale won a 1st place in Early 4drs and Best of Show

At the Awards Banquet they served Spaghetti and Meatballs and Ed got more than one Meat Ball'a (Hum? I wonder where they got the Meatball idea?) We had a great time at Springfest and enjoyed seeing all of the friends we have made during the years. Many Springfest attendees come to our show as well along with the Central Florida Corvair Club. We hope to make it again next year. Big applause goes out to the clubs who worked so hard to put on this show.

2. WHAT IS EXPECTED OF OUR MEMBERSHIP?

We are celebrating a successful show in February with our Spring Picnic on May 17th at 1pm in Howard Furr's big garage. Please plan to attend. The club will provide the meat and everyone is to bring a dish to share.

3. THE WONDERS OF TECHNOLOGY:

Email the newsletter editor at:

wfcc@mediacombb.net

CORSA @ www.corvair.org

CorvairForum.com

Visit www.oldcarsweekly.com and <Speak your piece in forums at Oldcarsweekly.com>

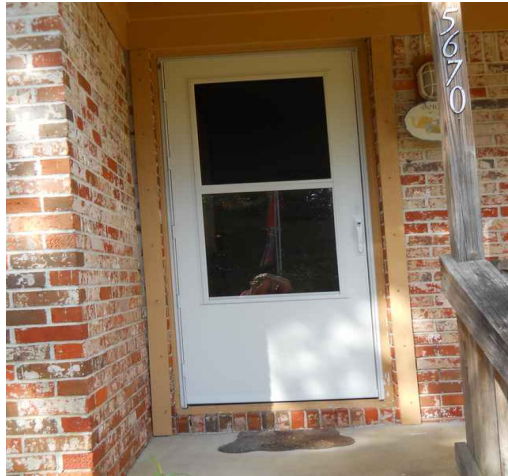
Facebook: [West Florida Corvair Club](https://www.facebook.com/WestFloridaCorvairClub). Send Friend Request!

4. HOW CORVAIR LOVERS CELEBRATE LIFE:

Ed and June Lindsay got a new front screen door for their home and headquarters for our club. There

screen door had been damaged during Hurricane Ivan in 2004 and they badly needed a new one. Next project is to paint the front metal door.

Congratulations Ed and June



5. DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that Bills have been sent to those who have not yet paid their dues? Please return your "Renewal/Intent" slips and a Check for \$15.00. Return the "Intent Slips" letting us know if you no longer want to be a member of our club so we don't bill you again. Dues will be going up to \$20 in January 2027.

6. HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY:

If your birthday is not listed below, it is because you don't have a Birthday listed on your personal profile or because you did not pay your dues. (Or, I goofed!) If you or your pet would like to be on the Birthday List, pay your dues and contact June Lindsay at 850-994-2161 or emails her at wfcc@mediacombb.net. (June and July birthdays are listed in our June, July & August newsletter that comes out in August.)

Birthdays

Karl Stelzer	5/2
Barbara McAtee	5/4
Teddi Dudak	5/5
Benjamin Nowlin	5/10
Erin Harkey	5/16
Howard Ruble	5/17
Alan Slusher	5/23
Earl Jones	5/24
Marissa Mia Ruble	5/27

Anniversaries

Lamar & Donna Childs	5/4/74
Lee Oxford & Mary Ann Hanley	5/11/88

7. TECH TIPS OR ARTICLE:

Oil Leak Prevention
 CORSA Tech Guide Volume 4
 Engine: Oil/Cooling Page 39

Oil leaks can be caused by, or prevented with, assembly technique and parts choice.

Oil Filter: GM called for 15-20 foot-pounds of torque (15 seems to work fine), which is necessary for this type of filter. Many folks do not do this and leaks occur. Follow up with a check of the torque a week later, and do not use the filters with the cap-type outer rubber gaskets, they may not let the center seal reach its seat. These gaskets were an early 1960 design but for some reason have re-appeared.

Oil Cooler: When you tighten the oil cooler you are pressing metal to metal which gives a specific crush to the two seals. The book calls for 8-12 foot-pounds; more tightening will only distort the cooler.

Rear Cover: There is more than one gasket available for the rear engine cover. The original style gasket thickness is 0.015" thick, a bit soft, and will crush around the four stud holes with the recommended 40-50 foot-pounds. Another available gasket is 0.030" thick with much harder composition. It appears to withstand the higher torque, but since you are tightening four nuts on 3/8" studs in aluminum, it would seem the torque recommendation is high_you risk pulling the studs as well as crushing the gasket. I have been successfully using the thicker gasket (red-pink in color) with 35 foot-pounds. The thinner gasket may also work with the lower torque reading but I have not tried it. Of course the mating seal areas must be clean and not dented or deeply scratched. If the mating surfaces are perfect then no gasket sealer is necessary and this would be ideal. If you think sealer is appropriate, use a very light coat to prevent it winding up in the oil passages. Coppercoat in a spray can work on both sides of the gasket well for this.

Crankshaft Seal: There are several considerations. Do not use an NOS GM seal, and do not use a seal without the rubber press fit area (some were metal and would fall out when hot). Use either the black or the Viton reproductions. Press the seal in carefully making sure it will not spring back out; I use Coppercoat (liquid) which lubricates the seals. Once installed, check for distortion and be sure the lip spring is in place. Pack the area between the seal lips with grease; the Viton outer lip will adhere to the hub and crumble if you do not. Polish the crank hub and check for a wear groove; if you have a really bad groove, you can change bellhousings (late/early) to relocate the seal lips.

Pushrod Tube Seals: Use only Viton seals, clean the seating areas and remember that the small flange end of the tube goes in the crankcase. I use Coppercoat (liquid) on the seals to both lubricate and compensate for flaws and baked on oil residue. Lightly tap on the end of the tubes with a socket to seat them completely.

Oil Pan: Use the hard paper gasket if possible because it will retain torque (this was original on late modes). Use a hammer and socket to flatten the oil pan holes and straightedge the seal surface, adjusting as necessary. I use the hard gasket, high temp RTV, new one inch bolts

with flat and lock washers, and torque to 10 foot-pounds. You may have to search for the correct 1/4" washers, the Chinese decided to change our original size. You may have to search for the correct 1/4" washers, the Chinese decided to change our original size. Also chase the crankcase threads when using the slightly longer bolts. There is a difference between late model and early model oil pans; the early was designed with cork gaskets, the late for hard paper gaskets. They both can be used with the paper gasket if you are careful about straightening. There is no service operation that requires removing the pan other than engine overhaul or clutch/converter housing removal, so take the time to do a quality job and you are set for the love of the engine.

Oil Pump Dummy Shaft: The stationary steel shaft that is part of the oil pump was installed in the aluminum housing with the end exposed. I suspect it was pressed in at the factory instead of being heat shrunk, which would broach aluminum ahead of the shaft. As the dissimilar metals heat up, a small but irritation leak can occur. Use a Dremel tool or sandpaper to rough up the area, clean with paint prep (or similar), and apply a good two-part quick set steel epoxy to cover the shaft end.

Note: In our next two issues of our newsletter, we will continue with the rest of this article addressing the Valve Cover, Oil Filter/Alternator Adapter, Engine Top cover and Tech Editor Notes.

8. LOOKING BACK:

Does the Rampside below look familiar? In 2021 at Springfest in Helen, GA we saw this '63 Rampside with the Mid-engine V8.



This Rampside was also at our show in February 2026. It now belongs to the Central Division Director, Dean Gimberling from Box Springs, GA.



Dean's '63 Mid-engine V8 in 2026

Howard Furr has found an old Disc from our car show in 1999 with this same truck at Navarre Beach, FL and we will print a picture of it in our next issue. The disc has several other pictures of the very same cars that come to our show now and we will show them to you as well.

9. CHAT BY JUNE LINDSAY:



At the end of March, Denis Palmer attended a Hardware Car Show in Agricola, MS. There were over 100 cars and trucks of all types and only one Corvair.

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 Linda Qualifying Provider



Ed finally got his 2024 Trophy

Gary Mierzwa and Mary Mierzwa, Ed and June Lindsay and Don Inge went to the Harley Davidson Kick Ass Event on April 26th in Pensacola, FL. Ed got two trophies. He got the Most Unique trophy that he won in 2024. (The announcer at the Harley Davidson Show always forgot to bring his trophy from 2024 to their next show.) Ed received another trophy for Most Unique at this show in 2026. A big rain storm came up on us and we got soaked. Ed and June were just walking up outside when Ed's name was called. It did not rain for long and we ended up having a wonderful day! June again is wearing the hat Howard Furr embroidered of Ed's Truck.

Don Inge brought his VW, but we could not find a picture taken his VW or Gary's '65 Corvair at the show. You can go to the Harley Davidson face book page and see all of the pictures that were taken at the show. Don's VW is in a video of a row of cars that ends with Ed's black and white Rampside at the end of the row.

10. COMING EVENTS:

May 17: West Florida Corvairs club Spring Picnic at Howard's big garage. The club will provide the hamburgers and hot dogs and everyone is to bring a dish to share. Of course, Howard Ruble will bring Red Beans and Rice.

May 21: 11th Annual Bugs on the Bayou, Mullet Festival Grounds, Niceville, FL, 32578, SR 85 South to 293, Top Ten, Best in show, and other awards, 50/50 Raffle, Camping w/110v power, \$10 with Vehicle Registration, \$30 without, Cruises, Drive-in movie, lantern walk, and other events. Corvair and other rear engine cars welcome, \$20 online registration \$30 at the gate., BugsOnTheBayou.com. Bring a non-perishable food item or hygiene product for food bank.

May 22-26: 2026 International Corvair Convention in Historic Gettysburg, Host Hotel the Wyndham Gettysburg, 95 Presidential Circle., Gettysburg, PA 17325-8397, Hotel Reservations at 717-339-0020 and use the code name CORSA National Convention for convention rate, Monday June 22: Concourse Meeting, Cole participant Meetings, Model Car set up, Convention Kickoff, Car Show, Valve Cover Builder Workshop + racing. Tuesday June 23: Concourse d'Elegance, Battlefield Tour Bus with guide, Rally Participants Meeting. Wednesday June 24: Rally, Pre-Auto Cross Tech inspection. Thursday June 25: Autocross, Banquet Table Assignments. Friday June 26: Econo Run, Driving Tour, Battlefield Tour Bus with Guide, Banquet. Please refer to upcoming issues of the Communique for convention previews and also check our website, www.corvai.org for further updates and online hotel reservation links.

July 4: Freedom Car Show sponsored by the Milton Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber of Commerce is located on Avalon Blvd. Take I10 Exit 22 North, and go past the new Court House to the new Chamber of Commerce office. Hope you can all come. It is a very nice show.

July 9 - 12: Ann Arbor, Mi Corvair Homecoming Mini-Convention, Where the Corvair Families get together for fun! This is a three-day event that we do every year. We have become better than the traditional families. We are with each because we want too! Many activities take place over the days, tech sessions, valve cover race, road rally, lots of food to enjoy, movies, wine & cheese event, funkana etc., Wyndham Garden Ann Arbor 2900 Jackson Rd, Ann Arbor, MI 48103, Contact Pete Cimbala, 821-621-9866 or hcinfo@detroitcorvairs.com

11: CLUB STORES: SALE!

CLUB MERCHANDISE:

**1960-69 Stickers @ \$2 each (No 62's or 66's)

** Club Pins @ \$2, **New Club Car Window Sticker @ \$2

** New digital Patches @3 each, Note Card's \$1 (Dog & Cat), ** 2 butterfly note pads \$1 (Dog & Cat)

CORSA MERCHANDISE: Hat Pins \$6, CORSA Patches \$6, CORSA Decals Inside/Outside \$5.00

EMBROIDERED CORVAIR HATS and T-SHIRTS by Howard Furr and STELZER'S CORVAIR STONEWARE.

Contact Ed Lindsay at 850-781-6350.

12: FOR SALE: (If sold, let us know)

For Sale: 1964 Monza Coupe, 110/4speed, with factory Options Simulated Wire Hub Caps, Clock, bumper guards, Factory Wood Steering Wheel, needs nothing. New Tires, battery Clutch, brakes, shocks, suspension and more. Asking \$18,000, Edgewater, FL. Rick Sanford 843-231-2257, or ricksandord2020@gmail.com or Bill Sanford 407-6147-3325, wags12202aol.com

For Sale: 1965 Corsa Turbo Coupe: Second owner for 58 years. Less than 1,000 mi on new Tony Ellison-built engine. This pampered beauty its on carpet in its own Florida climate Controlled garage. CORSA Convention 97.5 Gold Winner. at 80+years is time to let another Corvair enthusiasts enjoy owning it. Super value at \$24,900, Earl Wright 864-378-4545.

For Sale: Going Out of Business, Catering Trailer located in Crestview, FL, some damage in back. Call Dan Avallone at 850-974-9429 or 850-226-8298 for best offer or price.



For Sale: Corvair Memorabilia, Model cars, Hot Wheels, Franklin Mints, you name it I probably got it! Old Corvair manuals and periodicals, you name it, I probably got it! Ed Lindsay 850-781-6350.

For Sale: Early & late model Corvair parts: including FC parts. What do you need? I might have it! Ed Lindsay at wfcc@mediacombb.net or call him at 850-781-6350.

For Sale: 1969 Corvair Monza Coupe 110/P VIN 1188. This car has been gone through mechanically by a known Corvair Shop. This cars body and interior are disassembled (drive train is in the car and the car runs) for Body Work and Paint. (Everything has been bagged and tagged) car is Lemans Blue with matching interior. Contact Scott Good from Gastonia, NC at 704-813-8981 or, email him at Rscottgood66@gmail.com. This ad sent to us by Rick Sanford from Myrtle Beach, SC 843-231-2257.

13: ADVERTISEMENTS:

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Eddie Meadows Automotive
991 Foxfire Trail
Oviedo, FL 32765
407-36-09748

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Handy Car Care – Ken Hand
1896 S. Gregory Rd.
Fowlerville, MI 48836
248-613-8586
www.corvairmechanic.com

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Rafee Corvair
www.rafeecorvair.com
2695 Bengal Rd.
Wister, OK 74966
918-753-2486

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North Florida Corvair
Repairs – Restorations
Woody Woodfin
Lake City, FL
386-406-0606

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Charlie Kelson Plumbing
kelsonplumbing@gmail.com
Call: 850-221-9905

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PIERCING BY DAN
DEFIANCE TATTOO
Miracle Parkway, Ft. Walton Bch, FL
Dan Avallone, 850-974-9429 or 850-226-8298

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Thane Taylor
850-341-1330
Mention WFCC & get a discount equal to the Tax

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Bill Cotrofeld Automotive, Inc
Call or write for a free brochure:
America's Oldest Corvair Shop
3630 Route 7A Arlington
P.O. Box 235
East Arlington, VT 05252
802-375-6782

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Wolf Enterprises
Carburetors & Collectibles
32605 Rhode Island Ave.
San Antonio, FL 33576
E-mail: GyoungWolf@earthlink.net
Write, call, or send an email to request
your Free Catalog at 352-588-0645

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Corvanatics

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www.Corvanatics.org

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Stelzer Stoneware



<https://www.etsy.com/shop/StelzerStoneware>

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California Corvair Parts:

We would like to let everyone know about our growing online parts store at:

www.CaliforniaCorvairParts.com

More than 30 parts categories including everything from New, Used, Rebuilt and NOS items. The store currently features over 560 parts available and we are adding more every week. For those of you who enjoy shopping online we invite you to have a look. We accept all credit cards and of course Pay Pal payments too. 951-284-3555, 15090 La Palma Dr., Chino, CA 91710.

Thanks, Jeffrey Williams, CC

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Clark's Corvair Parts
400 Mohawk Trail
Shelburne Falls, MA 01370
www.corvair.com
413-625-9776



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More pictures taken at Springfest



Corvette powered Corvair

That's All Folks!

13. WEST FLORIDA CORVAIRS, INC. is a chartered chapter # 325 of the Corvair Society of America? We advocate membership in CORSA of which dues are currently \$45 annually. Send Dues to CORSA, Executive & Editorial Offices: 1448 Seagull Drive, Apt. 312, Palm Harbor, FL 34685. You may contact them at their Web Site: www.corvair.org. Executive Secretary: Paul & Ramona Bergstrom, P.O. Box 68, Maple Plain, MN 55359, 630-403-5010, you may email them at corsacluboffice@gmail.com. CORSA publishes a monthly magazine dedicated solely to the Corvair. You may contact them at: Executive Editor: Donald Keefe, communique@corvair.org. Membership Dues for West Florida Corvairs, Inc. is presently \$15 annually in January. We meet on a regular basis on the third Sunday of each month at 2:30 p.m. at a predetermined place for our business meetings. Social gatherings are arranged for family enjoyment as weather permits. Both meeting places are published in our newsletter. Anyone who has an interest in the Corvair is welcome to join us at any of our meetings. Thinking about becoming a member? Three complimentary newsletters can be mailed to you. Contact our club c/o Ed Lindsay, 5670 San Vair Street, Milton, FL. 32583, and Phone: 850-994-2161, E-mail: wfcc@mediacombb.net. (The address of our club is that of our Newsletter Editor.)

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First Class

