

The CONNECTING ROD

The Newsletter of Corvair Atlanta, Inc.



July 2026



*Corvair Atlanta and Heart of Georgia members at the
2026 National Corvair Convention, Gettysburg, PA.*

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From the Editor

As I write this, I am finishing my second cup of coffee and enjoying a beautiful sunrise over Lake Secession. First, I want to apologize for the delay in getting this edition to you.

Cheryl and I, along with Billy Bruce, Francine Clarke, Chris and Joan Law, Mike and Dee Dee Gassmann, Joe and Rhonda Gale Gleason, Jack and Valerie Green, Keith and Sharon Burkingstock, and Chuck Smith spent several wonderful days in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, attending the National Corvair Convention. We had a fantastic time and made many great memories.

Shortly after returning home, Cheryl and I traveled to Iva, South Carolina, for Billy Bruce's Annual Fourth of July Fish Fry. This year's Independence Day was especially memorable for me, as I purchased a car from Mike Callahan. The moment I saw the gold 1965 air-conditioned four-door, I knew it was something special. Tomorrow (July 7), I will have the pleasure of driving it back to Atlanta, taking the scenic route and enjoying as many back roads as possible along the way.

In this issue, we take a moment to remember a cherished member of our Corvair Atlanta family, Bill Rudolph, whose contributions and friendship touched many of us over the years.

Please review the **Upcoming Events** section and consider bringing your Corvair to the Cruise-in and Cofer Antique Car Collection Events. It's always a great opportunity to share our cars and our passion for the hobby and view some historic and classic vehicles.

Finally, the **For Sale** section has grown considerably, with more cars, parts, and memorabilia available than ever. I encourage everyone to send me updates on their cars, along with lists of parts they are looking for. And, as always, I especially enjoy receiving photos to share with the club.

Tom Endfinger

1966unsafe@gmail.com

The President's Corner



Frank was unable to submit his normal article. The July meeting is the July 11th cruise-in and Cofer car collection. Information about those events and the August meetings will be in the August newsletter.



Coming Events:

Saturday, July 11, 2026 – Cruise-In and Cofer Museum Tour

Sunday, August 2, 2026 – Sunday Classic Car Worship 8:00am – 11:00am Target Shopping Center at Panera Bread, 1135 Woodstock Road, Roswell, GA 30075

Saturday, August 15, 2026 – North CAI Monthly Member Meeting 12:00pm – 2:00pm North River Tavern, 8879 Roswell Road, Sandy Springs, GA 30350

Saturday, August 15, 2026 - South CAI Monthly Member Meeting 1:00pm – 3:00pm Partners II Pizza, 834 Glynn Street, Suite 228, Fayetteville, GA 30214

Monday, September 7, 2026 – Labor Day

Friday, October 2-Saturday, October 3, 2026 – Vairs in the Valley, Maggie Valley, NC

Saturday, October 3, 2026 – The Master's Car Club 2026 Benefit Car Show 9:00am – 2:00pm, 4385 Pecan Street, Loganville, GA30052

Friday, October 9 - Saturday, October 10, 2026 – Vairs at the Fair, Perry, GA



Fun with your Vair!



Cruise-In and Cofer Museum Tour (the "Stable of Thoroughbreds")
(Cecil McCall is the curator of the Collection)

The Cruise-In in Tucker is set for Saturday, 11-July, and we hope that many of our members can drive their Corvairs to this event. Any of our Club members (CAI & HoG) who want to bring their Corvairs are welcome to display at the "Cruise-In" and then attend the Museum Tour ("The Stable of Thoroughbreds"). Additional details are below;

The Club will meet at "Matthews on Main" around 9:30 a.m.

* Matthews is a Cafeteria in Tucker that is closed on Saturdays. I can get more details from Cecil, but I assume we congregate at the Matthews parking lot.

Here's the link to Matthews Cafeteria: <https://www.matthewscafeteria.net/>

**Matthews Cafeteria
2299 Main Street
Tucker, Ga 30084
770) 939-2357**

We expect to have 10 to 15 Corvairs available at the Cruise-In, and almost every model made.

- The Cruise-In starts at 10:00 a.m. Cecil will "bring us in" at 10:00 a.m. and we park in the middle of the Street

The Cruise-In ends at 1:00 p.m., then Cecil will take us down to tour the Car Collection (5 minutes away)

Please let Tom Constantine know that you will attend. Tom can be reached at (678) 294-8149

Fun with your Vair! Continued



Sunday Classic Car Worship



1st Sunday of each month!
8AM - 11AM

No awards, no “Monkey Business,” just folks who love classic cars you don’t see very often, if ever!

Panera Bread, 1195 Woodstock Road, Roswell, GA 30075

The Master's
CAR CLUB

IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE CITY OF LOGANVILLE

PRESENTS

2026 **BENEFIT** **CAR SHOWS**



**Huge
Swap
Meet**

MUSCLE CARS, HOT RODS, IMPORTS, TRUCKS

SATURDAY MAY 2ND

SATURDAY OCTOBER 3RD

MAIN STREET -LOGANVILLE, GA.

Show Address: 4385 Pecan Street , Loganville

Registration from 9:30 am til 12:00

Awards at 2:00 pm

50/50 Raffle Door Prizes Music, Great Food & Drinks

30 TROPHIES TO BE AWARDED

Vendor Info

Kristy at 404-290-5884

Car Show Info

David at 404-725-4960

Checks made out to : Master's Car Club, 3540 Hwy 78, Suite 201 Loganville, Ga. 30052

Corvair Pergatory

By Mike Callahan

Happy July 2026

So, what's going on at Corvair Pergatory this month:

Didn't make it to The Convention

I spend at least 2 hours a day in the garden and taking care of my wife's flower gardens. Picking lots of vegies. Best year for garden in a long time.

LS Corvair: Started driving and noting issues and then fixing them. Had to replace alternator, no way to get it out, so had to cut out a portion of the inner fender and had to remove the power steering pump.

Done fixed the e-brake and still having rear suspension issues.

47 Hudson pickup truck: Got the wiper parts in, but not the right ones, so had to modify and install. Put in windshields, now working on sealing them. Been driving it despite not having a drivers side door window (need parts).

Ultra Van: Been working a lot on the wiring and finished it, finished installing the Brown EFI system and working on replacing an wall where the book case was and installing a couch. Lots of fun with the wiring.

I Still have some a/c wiring to do, mainly upgrading the entry panel.

Elcorvino:

62 Wagon:

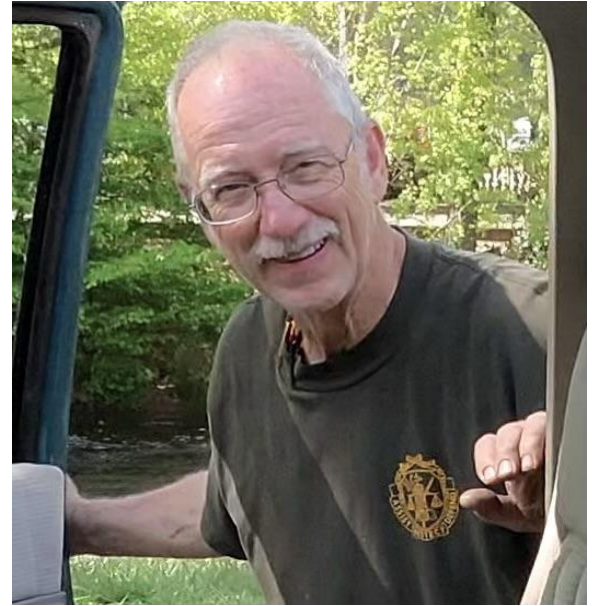
FOR SALE

61 rampside, 4 speed, front disc brakes. Usual rust. Has car engine, new clutch parts, \$5,000

65/66 am/fm radios from \$300 to \$450 Still have 2 left for \$450 each **Sold TWO, bought one**

14 rebuilt heads - \$500 a pair

Tons of parts, call me with your needs.



63 convertible stripped and floor cut and trunk cut for v8 installation. Body is perfect. Too good to be cut up, but available for whatever you need. \$500.00 OBO

Late turbo engine 100% all new parts rebuilt engine,

110 rebuilt engine, 100% new parts built by Barry Owen.

Work to be done List

I have more projects on my list than are listed here, but these made it to the priority list.

78 El Camino: Remove motor and transmission and install 500 Cadillac motor. Finish interior.

58 Chevy Apache 3200 Long Bed Step Side Pickup Truck: Needs electric power steering, fix drive by wire issues. Not getting spark, need to trouble shoot it.

61 El Corvino: Needs carpet, other interior finishing (door panels, etc.) wire up the seat switches. Build a console to hold seat switches troubleshoot rough engine issues.

68 Ultravan: Need to find a place to install microwave ...Road time. install Brown fuel injection.

33 Ford Coupe: Needs interior, more wiring to straighten out, headlights, turn signals, find a way to increase ground clearance, paint.

66 Coupe A/C PG, 4-wheel disc brakes: Needs chrome around windshield installed, find rear seat bottom and install, tune engi

62 Studebaker Hawk Gran Turismo: Needs a/c wiring,

66 Red A/C Convertible: Needs some run time to break in new engine, a/c hook

**I HAVE BUSINESS CARDS FOR THE CLUB, ASK FOR SOME IF YOU VISIT ME,
ELSE PICK UP SOME AT THE NEXT CLUB MEETING.**

I have Corvair Interchange books for sale at every meeting **\$5.00** to members, All proceeds go to the club

Club pens are for sale at the meeting \$2.00 proceeds go to the club.

Club flashlights are on order and will be \$4.00 at club meetings, proceeds go to the club.

Club business cards handed out at the meeting.

Tech Tip

By Hagerty

For anyone working on a classic or project car, there never seems to be enough time. Between maintenance, restoration, and upgrades, projects can quickly consume more hours than expected. Rather than trying to spend every spare minute in the garage, it's often more effective to work smarter. Kyle Smith shares four ways to make better use of the time available.

1. Plan and Prepare Ahead of Time

A little preparation can prevent a lot of wasted effort later. Before starting a job, gather the necessary parts and tools, clean the work area, review service manuals, and research the procedure. Although preparation requires time upfront, it often makes the actual repair or upgrade much smoother and faster.

2. Concentrate on a Single Project

Trying to juggle multiple automotive projects at once can reduce productivity. Each time attention shifts from one task to another, valuable time is spent getting back up to speed. Focusing on one project allows work to progress more consistently and helps bring the vehicle back on the road sooner.

3. Step Away When Necessary

When something goes wrong—a stripped fastener, a stubborn part, or an unexpected complication—forcing the issue can lead to more mistakes. Taking a break, whether planned or spontaneous, can help restore patience and focus. Returning with a clear mind often results in better decisions and higher-quality work.

4. Avoid Repeating Tasks

Careful planning of the workflow can eliminate unnecessary backtracking. Reassembling parts only to take them apart again wastes both time and energy. Thinking through the sequence of work ahead of time helps ensure that each task is completed once and completed correctly.

Overall Message

Project cars nearly always require more time and money than originally expected. However, by preparing thoroughly, maintaining focus, taking breaks when needed, and organizing work efficiently, enthusiasts can reduce frustration, make better progress, and enjoy the process more.

You can read the article in its entirety at:

<https://www.hagerty.com/media/maintenance-and-tech/4-tips-to-save-time-on-your-project-car/>

In Memory



Thanks Bill Rudolph, for the pleasure of your company.

Bill Rudolph may be past tense in conversation, but never in memories. He was the totally outgoing kind of guy that lifted spirits and was game to join right in. And join right in he did.

It was 1983. Bill, just newly married to wife Jeanette, decided to venture to Helen, GA for a fun afternoon. They didn't know at the time that Corvair Atlanta was holding one of their beginning Springfest events. Corvairs abounded, not an unusual sight for Jeanette. Her daddy owned 2 or 3.

Conversation with Club members came easy and friendships developed even easier, enough so that the comradery and Corvair attraction prompted them to join the roster of Corvair Atlanta the next day, 42 years ago!

What a package Corvair Atlanta got.

Bill started to accumulate Corvairs and could easily be found "hawking parts" at shows (or displaying a Corvair of his own). Offering mechanical help to other members came easy.

Both Bill and Jeanette served multiple times on the Club BOD. He sat in as Club V.P. in 2002 and Newsletter Editor in '94 & '95. You can also see his name on the membership roster of the Heart of Georgia Corvairs and a Corvair Club in Florida (don't know the name.)

A little-known fact and almost a touch of fame.

This could have been the beginning of Dancing with the Stars. Remember the song, "**I heard it through the Grapevine?**" That was from the late 1960s. A handful of us from Corvair Atlanta (i.e. Bill, Jeanette, myself & Maxine Allison, the late Burnie Weddle & partner), vacated the car show scene temporarily & ventured on a cruise together. A dance contest was held using a popular song. We chose the above and entered as a group. Jeanette orchestrated a routine featuring all of us in a conga line wearing a black, 36 gallon plastic garbage bag over our bodies representing a grape. We snaked around the deck for 3 minutes to the vocals. Picture that, if you can!

We placed second, a bit of a blow to Bill, our leading grape, who led us doing his best double shuffle around the deck. Fun for Bill was easy to come by and laughing it off was part of his nature.

Aside from that bit of levity, he patriotically served his country in the Air Force and National Guard for 37 years and went on to retired from IBM and Equifax. This man was a "do-er". "Hats off, Bill!" Those that never knew you, missed a lot!

Jack Allison,
Club Historian



For Sale

'64 Monza with an aftermarket supercharger.

- White convertible with a red interior. Top in excellent condition.
- No rust, no oil leaks.
- Runs great, I had it out a few weeks ago.
- Always garaged.

\$20,000. I cannot deliver, but it is here in my garage in Duluth. You can drive it home.



Jim Thompson

Telephone: 678.206.6010
Facsimile: 678.206.6011
Mobile: 404.822.3412

Good afternoon gentlemen. I had met each of you 20 or so years ago. In 1994 I bought a ragged out '66 Corsa Convertible fixed it up and drove it for many years. It was running the last time I parked it in 2020. In 2022 I talked with both of you guys for a recommendation for a restoration. I then called Bill McCull with Chair City Corvairs. He put me on a waiting list, and when he called me back, I had decided to just keep it. I am now ready to sell it and you are my first contacts. If you know anyone interested in looking at it and making an offer on it, please give them my info.

I can be reached at 770-714-0563 or keros@bellsouth.net. I live in Conyers. Any help you could provide would be greatly appreciated. Thanks for your time.

Ken Rose

Hey, I am Chris Owens here in Fayetteville and I have a pallet load of used Corvair parts that I would like to clear out. Do you know of anyone in the area that would want them before I put them on marketplace or something. There are a bunch of usable parts in there. Thanks in advance.

If you know anyone who has a Corvair or parts for sale and wish to have them listed in the newsletter, please send to: 1966unsafe@gmail.com. Photos sell stuff faster.

1962 Corvair "Spyder" Convertible w/150hp Turbo

\$19,000

Comes with extra turbocharger, literature and parts

2022 "World of Wheels" Award Winner!



Text Scott Grant: 205.545.3009

Or

Email: strattobladder2@yahoo.com

For questions/appointment

Are you a current CORSA Member?

We strongly encourage all to support the national organization, which works to support our local events through a liability insurance policy, advertising of events in national publications, and inclusion of members in online tech sessions, newsletters, and Zoom meetings.



The National Corvair Museum is currently located at 10041 Palm Road – on the Historic alignment of old Route 66 – in Glenarm, Illinois 62536-6621. Just ten miles south of Springfield, it's in close proximity to popular tourist destinations in the Springfield area.

For those of you who wish to be a Museum Supporter,



[Click HERE to download a hardcopy of your contribution form.](#)

<https://www.corvair.org>

Meet Your Club Leadership Team

Running a great club takes a lot of moving parts—just like our favorite air-cooled engines! Here is your current leadership roster. *Got ideas for the club? These are the folks helping steer the ship!*

Feel free to reach out to any of the officers or directors with questions, event ideas, or just to talk Corvairs.

Executive Officers

- **President:**
Frank Metasavage metasavage@gmail.com ☎ (706-302-6543)
- **Vice President:**
Mike Gassmann mgassmann@comcast.net ☎ (678-296-7225)
- **Secretary:**
Tom Constantine corvair1965monza@yahoo.com ☎ (678-294-8149)
- **Treasurer & Webmaster:**
Steve Ratcliffe corvairatlweb@gmail.com ☎ (803-807-3554)
- **Newsletter:**
Tom Endfinger 1966unsafe@gmail.com ☎ (808) 381-0423

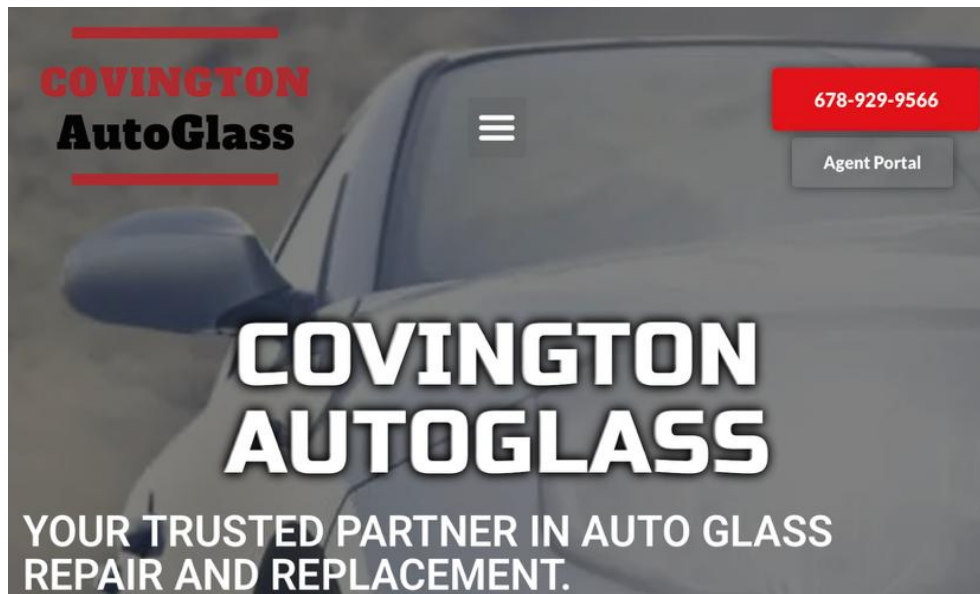
Board of Directors

- Dan Terry dterry8123@aol.com ☎ (770) 235-5271
- Robert Birkinbine dabirk@comcast.net ☎ (404) 630-1467
- Nolan Grant grantphoto2@gmail.com ☎ (470) 623-0476
- Michael Rickey michael.e.Rickey@gmail.com ☎ (678) 576-7158

 ***Got a story or a photo for the next issue? Don't be shy!***

Reach out to our *Newsletter Editor*, Tom Endfinger, to get your Corvair project, tech tips, cars/parts for sale, garage finds, or whatever is Corvair-related featured in the monthly editions of *The Connecting Rod*.

Resources



AMERICAN SUPERCARS UNLIMITED

Doug Rogers 1413 Little Refuge Rd Waleska, GA 30183
770-720-8472

For your Sand/Abrasive Blasting, Powder Coating, and Ceramic Header Coating

<http://www.dougsamericansupercarsunlimited.com/>



Gann's Automotive

728 Scenic Hwy, Lawrenceville, GA 678-380-0810

FREE BASIC DIAGNOSTICS

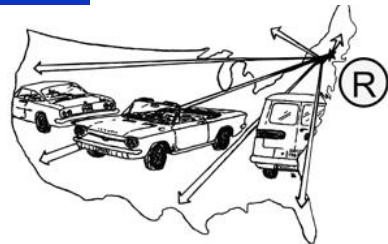
All Makes/Models Foreign and Domestic.

Nolan Grant
Fix A Vair, LLC
470-623-0476
grantphoto2@gmail.com
Pendergrass, GA



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