

The CONNECTING ROD

The Newsletter of Corvair Atlanta, Inc.



October 2026



Corvair Atlanta and Heart of Georgia members at Vairs in the Valley

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From the Editor

I would like to extend a sincere thank you to everyone who attended the joint Corvair Atlanta and Heart of Georgia Corvair Club picnic at Indian Springs State Park. The beautiful weather provided a perfect setting for a day of fellowship, great food, and an impressive display of Corvairs.

It was wonderful to see so many members and friends come together to celebrate our shared enthusiasm for these unique automobiles. A special highlight was seeing Dave and Janet Humphries' newly acquired 1964 Monza Convertible, which they drove from Newnan. It was exciting to see the car and hear the story behind their latest Corvair adventure.

A very special thank you goes to Clay Grant for providing and preparing the food. His efforts were greatly appreciated by everyone and helped make the picnic an enjoyable and successful event. Gatherings like this depend on dedicated volunteers, and Clay's hard work certainly did not go unnoticed.



Corvair Atlanta and Heart of Georgia joint picnic.

While the picnic was a happy occasion, many of us also reflected on the passing of Paula Hilderbrand, a longtime supporter and friend of Corvair Atlanta. Paula's enthusiasm, kindness, and commitment to the club touched many members over the years. She will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by our Corvair family.

This month also included another memorable event as members of Corvair Atlanta and Heart of Georgia made the trip to Maggie Valley, North Carolina, for Vairs in the Valley. More than 60 Corvairs were on display, representing enthusiasts from across the region. Although the weather was not always cooperative, it did little to dampen the enthusiasm of those in attendance.

For me personally, the trip became an adventure. My Corvair broke down four times before I finally made it to Maggie Valley. Fortunately, one of the great things about the Corvair community is that help is never far away. I would like to offer a heartfelt thank you to Joe Gleaton, who spent considerable time working on my car and helping get it back on the road. Without Joe's knowledge, generosity, and willingness to pitch in, my trip might have ended much differently. His efforts exemplify the camaraderie that makes the Corvair hobby so rewarding.

Congratulations are also in order for two of our members who represented their clubs well at Vairs in the Valley. Jack Green of Corvair Atlanta earned First Place in the Forward Control Corvair class, while Chris Law of Heart of Georgia Corvairs captured Second Place honors in the same class. Their awards are a testament to the pride, dedication, and hard work that go into preserving and showcasing these unique vehicles.

In the end, despite a few mechanical challenges and some less-than-perfect weather, a great time was had by all. The cars were outstanding, the scenery was beautiful, and the friendships made the trip worthwhile.

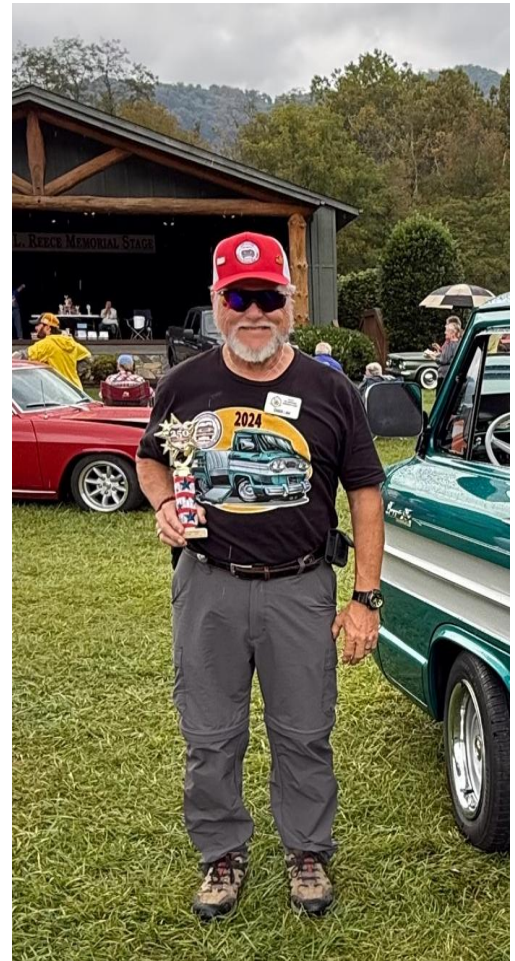
Thank you again to everyone who participated in these events and helped keep our club active and thriving. Whether it's a picnic at Indian Springs, a road trip to the mountains, or lending a helping hand to a fellow member in need, each of you contributes to what makes Corvair Atlanta such a special organization.

Safe motoring,

Tom Endfinger



Jack Green – First Place - Forward Control Class.



Chris Law – Second Place - Forward Control Class

The President's Corner

Welcome to the bewitching month! October is here, and with it comes some relief in the hot summer temperatures we have had and the realization that 2026 is winding down. The annual Maggie Valley event was last weekend, and it's also time to plan the Christmas party already. We should have complete details of that by the next newsletter. As always, the annual club board elections will be held at the Christmas party, so we invite you to consider your willingness to fill officer seats in Corvair Atlanta.

September's meeting was very informal at the annual picnic at Indian Springs State Park. Attendance was very good from both Corvair Atlanta and Heart of Georgia clubs with at least seven members driving their Corvairs. Clay Grant of Heart of Georgia provided the excellent barbecue lunch and dessert and knocked it out of the park, as usual. Chris and Joan Law held a short meeting for HOG. Most of the agenda was upcoming events which are pretty much the same as for Corvair Atlanta. I interjected additional CAI-specific comments as needed, and George Baker announced a reminder of the Kiwanis Club of LaGrange upcoming car show in early November in LaGrange. More complete information on the show follows below in this publication.



September also brought some very sad news with the passing of Paula Hilderbrand. Paula was a person who was not a stranger to anyone, always wearing a big smile and giving welcoming hugs. Although she had moved to Ohio, she remained active in Corvair Atlanta, attending every Springfest and most Zoom meetings. She will be missed.

October's meeting will be held in Conyers, GA. As most of you know Bill Rudolph recently passed. His wife Jeannette has invited club members to come to their home on Saturday, October 17th, from 9AM until much later and look through Bill's Corvair parts and see if there are any you may want to buy at a reasonable price. This will take the place of October's meeting, and food will be served. Bill amassed a significant collection of Corvair parts. He also had two Rampsides and 2 early model Corvairs as well as a 2001 GMC Van and one enclosed covered trailer which are all for sale as well as the parts. Bring cash and name your price for what you need and see if Jeannette will accept. The address is 240 Goode Road, Conyers 30094. Please RSVP to Tom Constantine at 678-294-8149 know if you are coming. Jeannette is providing lunch for everyone so it is important that she has a headcount in advance.

We hope you enjoy this month's "Connecting Rod".

Frank

Remembering Paula Hilderbrand



Thank you, Steve, for the recent
gift from Convoir Atlanta to honor
Paula's memory, What a kind and
fitting tribute to her life and love
of animals. ♥

Sincerely,

Sandy Larson
MCSPCA Board

Coming Events:

CANCELLED DUE TO WEATHER ~~Friday, October 9-Saturday, October 10, 2026~~ — Vairs at the Fair, Perry, GA

Monday, October 12 – Columbus Day

Saturday, October 17 – Bill Rudolph Car & Parts Sale – Details on Page 11 below.

Beginning at 9am. The address is: **240 Goode Road, Conyers 30094.**

It's **important** that you **RSVP NLT Oct 15th:** let **Nolan Grant: 470-623-0476** or **Tom Constantine: 678-294-8149** know if you are coming.

Friday & Saturday, October 23-24, 2026 – Choo-Choo Corvair Fall Classic (Registration below)

Sunday, November 1 – Daylight Savings Time Ends

Monday, November 2 – Day of the Dead

Tuesday, November 3 – Election Day

Wednesday, November 11 – Veterans Day

Saturday, November 14, 2026 – Kiwanis of Lagrange Car Show (Flyer below)

Saturday, November 14 – Burkingstock's Annual Weine Roast - 4pm-whenever you get sleepy. 135 Shoal Creek Road Fayetteville 30215, (770) 289-3125 if you get lost. We will have the golf cart to transport you from the street down to the fire. We will furnish the hot dogs, buns, chips, drinks, hot cider, plates, "silverware," and the fire. If you have a special dish you would like to bring that would be fine.

Thursday, November 26 - Thanksgiving



Fun with your Vair!



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

Fun with your Vair! Continued



Banquet Saturday night with choice of Salmon or Coconut crusted chicken. Please respond with your choice if you have not already done so. On a sad note, one of the Choo Choo members has to sell his beautiful 1965 Monza convertible automatic. Torquoise with white top and white interior. If anyone is interested in a very very nice 65, let me know and I will let the owner know. Bob Elwood
<elwoodbob1117@msn.com>

There will be spaces for swap meet items, but please note that the swap meet area is outside. This is for Saturday.

Choo-Choo Corvair Fall Classic
Friday & Saturday, October 23-24, 2026

2026 CHOO CHOO CORVAIR CLASSIC

Hosted by the Choo Choo Corvair Club at the Fairfield by Marriot (Athens, TN)

October 23-25

REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Address: _____

City _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Club Affiliation: _____

Names of Children in your group: _____

YOU MUST BE REGISTERED TO TAKE PART IN ANY EVENT

REGISTRATION FEE:	\$25.00 PER PERSON; \$40.00 PER FAMILY	\$ _____
SATURDAY ONLY:	\$10.00 PER PERSON; \$20.00 PER FAMILY	\$ _____
VENDOR FEE:	\$10.00 PER TABLE (OUTSIDE SPACE)	\$ _____
PEOPLE'S CHOICE:	\$10.00 PER CAR. (Number of cars _____)	\$ _____
AWARDS BANQUET BUFFET (Included in Registration; <u>MUST</u> know #of people) _____		
DRAGSTRIP FRIDAY Oct. 20 TH (See separate Registration Form), \$10 PER CAR.....		\$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Will you be staying at Fairfield by Marriott in Athens? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Will you be participating in the Car Rally? ☐ YES ☐ NO

PEOPLES CHOICE REGISTRATION

(ALL CARS ON DISPLAY WILL BE JUDGED FOR PEOPLE'S CHOICE)

VEHICLE DESCRIPTION: Year _____ Color _____ Model _____

☐ Early Open ☐ Early Closed ☐ Late Open ☐ Late Closed ☐ Specialty

☐ Forward Control Truck ☐ Forward Control Van ☐ Forward Control Greenbrier

Liability clause: Entrants and participants by execution of this form release and hold harmless Choo Choo Corvair Club, Inc., Choo Choo Corvair Club members and officers, Chattanooga Choo Choo, Inc. 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 cause whatsoever that may be suffered by any entrant or participants to his or her personal property (including family members and friends).

REGISTERED GUEST: _____ INT _____ SIGN _____ INT _____ SIGN _____

FOR HOTEL REGISTRATION: MENTION CHOO CHOO CORVAIR FOR \$139 DISCOUNT RATE - Contact at (423) 507-0870

Please mail form and payment to Sandy Elwood
413E Mount Harmony Rd
Niota, TN 37826.

(Make check payable to Chattanooga Choo Choo Corvair)

For more info:

BOB ELWOOD (931) 409-1124 or SANDY ELWOOD (931) 808-7057

elwoodbob1117@msn.com

Fun with your Vair! Continued

ALL CARS, TRUCKS, AND MOTORCYCLES WELCOME

KIWANIS OF LaGRANGE CAR SHOW

**BENEFITING
KIWANIS
K
INTERNATIONAL
KIWANIS OF LAGRANGE**

**\$35
ENTRY
WITH TOY**

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14TH, 2026

11:00AM - 3:00PM

**LAGRANGE HIGH SCHOOL
PARKING LOT**

516 N Greenwood St,
LaGrange, GA 30240

Contact Information
GEORGE BAKER JR.
706-333-1982

REGISTER NOW!

For Sale

As most of you know Bill Rudolph recently passed. His wife Jeannette has invited club members and their wives to come to their home on Saturday, October 17th and again on Saturday, October 24, from 9 AM until much later and look through Bill's Corvair parts and see if there are any you may want to buy at a reasonable price. I'm sure there will be some bargains because Bill has a significant collection of Corvair parts. Bill's two Rampsides and 2 other early model Corvairs will be for sale. Also for sale will be a 2001 GMC Van.

Bring your cash and name your price for what you need and see if Jeannette will accept. No details about the parts or the vehicles are available but I am sure it would be worth your time and money to come and see Bill's inventory.

The address is **240 Goode Road, Conyers 30094.**

We are asking that you **RSVP**, let **Nolan Grant at 470-623-0476** or **Tom Constantine at 678-294-8149** know if you are coming. Jeannette is providing lunch for everyone, so it is important that she has a headcount in advance.

Please RSVP NLT Oct 15th!

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.



Best Regards,

Jim Thompson

Telephone: 678.206.6010

Facsimile: 678.206.6011

Mobile: 404.822.3412

For Sale Continued

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

For Sale Continued

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.



Corvair Pergatory

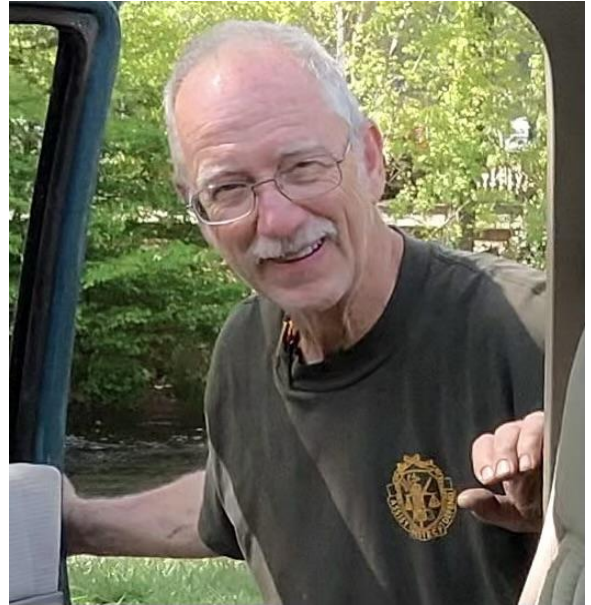
Happy OCT 2026!

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

Finally got some cool weather last week. Nice!

NEED SOME HELP: I have a digital tachometer that does not like the signal from the coil. I bought a couple of different adapters, but can't get it to work properly. Must be some one that had solved this problem. Let me know your thoughts.
issues.

66 Red A/C convertible: Working on getting the new gauges working. See note above.



Enclosed one end of one of my double car ports and added roll up doors so I could get 2 more cars in "enclosed and Locked" storage and dropped my insurance from \$850 for those 2 cars to \$210 by moving them from car port to enclosed and locked storage. I had American Classic for the last 25 years and didn't realize that requirement, so I had to go to Haggarty for those 2 cars.

Ultra Van: finished remaking the sending unit, the tanks only about 5 inches deep and the sending unit comes in from the side. So some unique cutting and welding was required to make one (none available). Then had to mate a gauge to it and rewire all of that only to find out that It was not remotely accurate. Finally got everything and installed and working well. Hooked up an external tank to test for the 2 pump system I have for the EFI to check for leaks and then started the engine. All is good. Ready for a road test and then add fuel to the tank and drive it.

62 Studebaker Hawk Gran tourisimo: A/C working. Had to rewire and get the electrical/vacuum systems to working. Electrical switches that control vacuum were added for the heat, A/C and defroster. All under the dash, there were some moments that I was glad the preacher wasn't there to witness.

62 Wagon: Found and fixed all the water leaks from the back of the front seat to the tail gate. Installed the carpeting for those areas and the vinyl over the rear wheel humps. Installed the rear seats and started to drive it. Had to do some welding on the shift rod and replace the bushing to get the shifter tightened up some. Finished roof rack installation. Found and repaired some o f the front leaks, but not all.

58 chevy apache 3200 long bed step side pickup truck: I have near zero oil pressure per the gauge once it gets warmed up, but no noise from the engine. Need to put a manually gauge on it to measure it. It's on my list of "TO DO" items.

FOR SALE

64 Monza coupe, PG \$4,000

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**

Rebuilt heads - \$600 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.

140 used engine still in the car, you can hear it run. \$1500 complete

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 TLC but road ready, nice to have electric power steering, check out oil pressure problem

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: Needs to be fired up and Road time.

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 engine

62 Studebaker Hawk Gran turismo: I think I'm done with it. I'm sure more driving will bring other issues.

66 Red A/C convertible: Find and fix some water leaks, get all the gauges working.

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

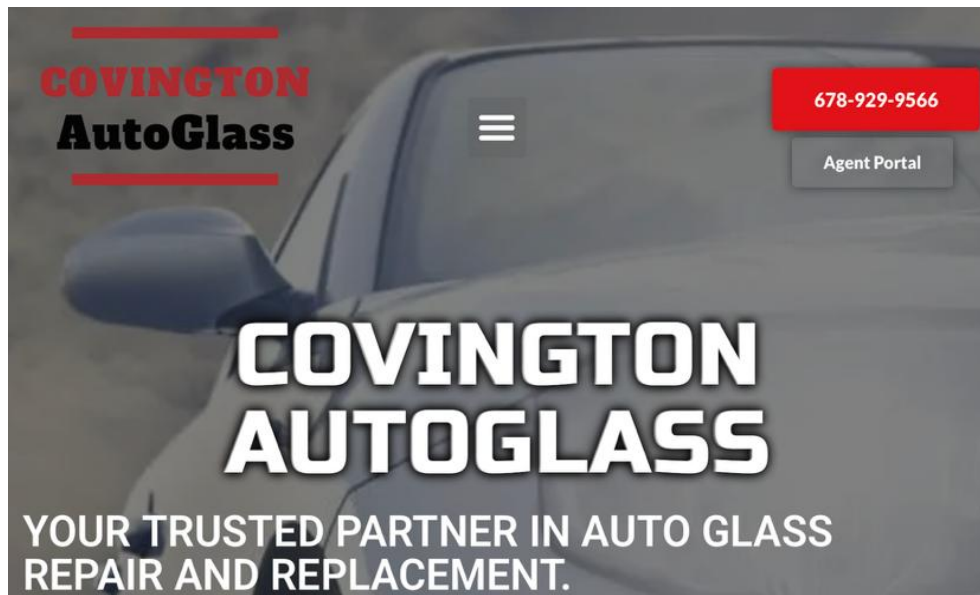
Board of Directors

- 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 Ce-ramic Header Coating

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

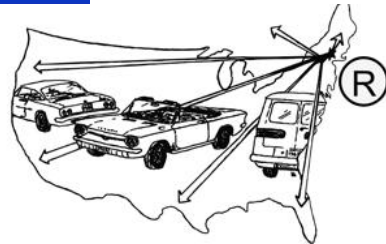


Nolan Grant
Fix A Vair, LLC
470-623-0476
grantphoto2@gmail.com
Pendergrass, GA



Clark's **Corvair Parts®**

Site of the World's Largest
Corvair Parts Supplier
Since 1973



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(413)625-9776
www.corvair.com