



CHAPTER 454

DAYTON *Corvair*

CHRONICLE



FEBRUARY 2026

FEBRUARY MEETING

The February meeting of the Dayton Corvair Club will be held at our usual place, the Vandalia Justice Center. The date is Tuesday, February 24th. Time is our usual 6:30 PM. The directions to the Justice Center are on the last page of the newsletter. The west side door should be open unless you are the first person there. If not, go in through the main entrance door on the east side of the building.

CLUB ACTIVITIES

January was a bit of a bumpy start. Our activity chairperson missed the November meeting, and with the freezing temperatures and record snowfall, the January meeting was canceled. So, we have some catching up to do and here is the current list of activities for the new year.

There's no planned activity for March, but we could plan on having a pizza meeting! We'll decide on that in our February meeting. We do have the D&D Classic Restoration tour set for April 18th, and we'll go to Buffalo Jacks for lunch afterward.

If there are still interest, we will decide which day in May to attend the Dayton Dragon's game. We will be permitted once again to park our Corvairs on the plaza near the entrance.

June might be a good month to visit the British Transportation Museum. July we could attend any car show as a group. There would be many shows going on and America would be celebrating 250 years as a nation.

August is the Mid Ohio meet and the club is responsible for hosting this year. It is scheduled for Saturday, August 1st and we chose Caesar Creek to be the location. We'll get organized and prepare to have a great time.

September is open. October we might have the Vair Affair and hopefully Shawn will host at his Corvair barn again. November is open and of course for December we have the Christmas party.

Keep an eye out for updated information in the coming months. As we jump-start the new year, we're always open to suggestions for activities. There is a list of other potential activities provided by Destination Dayton on page 7. Let Kevin your activity chairperson know what you'd like to do!

LOOKING BACK IN THE PAST

November 2009. Corvairs temporarily occupied an area inside the Corvette Museum in Bowling Green, KY. Years later the ground gave way to a sink hole that swallowed several Corvettes and artifacts.



Corvair Society of America

Founded in 1969 by and for those who still appreciate the Corvair Automobile - www.corvair.org.

To join visit <https://www.daytoncorvairclub.com/join>



JANUARY MEETING MINUTES

The January meeting of the Corvair club was cancelled due to bad weather so there are no minutes. The snow that fell on Sunday in Beavercreek was a little over 14 inches. The main roads had been cleared by meeting day, but the temp was near zero.

Back in the 70's when one could get a Corvair cheap and it was not yet a collector car, we might have wanted a little snow to show off the Corvair's capability, but 14 inches would have been a little too much. That reminds me of the incident when a friend

of mine invited me to go to an autocross on a frozen lake near Detroit, Michigan. We were waiting in line at the event when he decided to go off the road and pass the other cars since he was in his Corvair. He did not get far as the snow on the side of the road was over a foot deep and his Corvair body ended up suspended on the snow. I don't think the wheels even touched the ground.



CORVAIR CLUB TENTATIVE CALENDAR OF MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

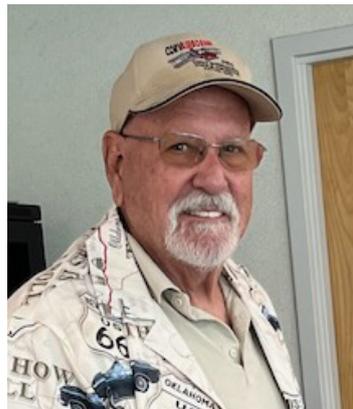
February	
02.24.26	Club meeting in Vandalia at the Justice Center - 6:30 PM
March	
03.24.26	Club meeting (with pizza?) in Vandalia at the Justice Center - 6:30 PM
April	
04.18.26	D&D Classic Restoration Tour - Covington, OH - 10 AM to 11:30 AM
04.18.26	Buffalo Jacks after D&D Tour - Covington, OH - 11:45 AM
04.28.26	Club meeting in Vandalia at the Justice Center - 6:30 PM
May	
05.26.26	Club meeting in Vandalia at the Justice Center - 6:30 PM
June	
06.22-26.26	CORSA International Corvair Convention in Gettysburg, PA
06.23.26	Club meeting in Vandalia at the Justice Center - 6:30 PM
July	
07.28.26	Club meeting in Vandalia at the Justice Center - 6:30 PM
August	
08.01.26	Tri-club Mid Ohio Meet at Caesar Creek - Dayton Corvair Club hosting
08.25.26	Club meeting in Vandalia at the Justice Center - 6:30 PM
September	
09.22.26	Club meeting in Vandalia at the Justice Center - 6:30 PM
October	
10.27.26	Club meeting in Vandalia at the Justice Center - 6:30 PM
November	
11.24.26	Club meeting in Vandalia at the Justice Center - 6:30 PM
December	
	Club Christmas Party - TBD



- MEMBER PROFILE - CRAIG PUTHOFF

I joined the Dayton Corvair Club in the fall of 2022. My first car was a Roman Red 1962 Monza Spyder Convertible. My mother found it during the "Summer of '69" after my first year at the University of Cincinnati. Initially, I wasn't excited about getting a Corvair but after seeing it, I began a lifelong love affair with this quirky little car from Chevrolet. My '62 provided a few years of

one summer of the early '80's where I stumbled upon a 1963 Spyder convertible in a used car lot along the way. Needless to say, it followed me home after a few repairs in the parking lot of the Convention hotel. (What a nightmare return trip to STL!!)



transportation from Cincinnati to Celina, Ohio where my girlfriend lived. After graduation, I moved back to Dayton where I entered the insurance business with my father. After buying my first home in 1974, my new wife and I lived in Huber Heights. It was there that my passion for 'Vairs ignited! I had them in the garage, driveway and parked in front of our home. At times, there were as many as five or six! In the 70's, Corvairs could be bought for \$25/\$50 and were considered very basic transportation only. Once, I counted the 'Vairs in front of my house and there was one too many. Someone had dropped off their 'Vair with keys and signed title in the glove box!!

By 1991, my interests turned to boats...all types, small and large. My smallest was an 18' Bayliner and my largest was a 48' 1966 Chris Craft which I kept at a yacht club on the Mississippi River. In 1999, I took this Chris



In 1977, children started arriving in my life so it was imperative to cut back on my 'Vair activities. Then in 1978, we moved to Chesterfield (St. Louis) and my stable was limited to two Corvairs and my '66 Cessna 150 which I kept at a local airport. I was a member of the "Show-Me Corvair Club where I became friends with John Cavagna and Carl Briggs. The three of us went to a Corvair Convention in Texas



Craft on a journey to do "The Loop" around the USA. For various reasons, we only made it about 25% of the way before realizing the costs of running it were not practical. It was sold in Clear Lake, Texas. Twin 427's gulped prodigious amounts of gas even though the cost was only \$1.00/gallon. Mileage was measured in Gallons Per Mile instead of Miles Per Gallon. I bought a Marine Trader Trawler with a 6 cylinder Ford-Lehman diesel engine to continue our quest. MUCH more practical!!! My loop journey ended with only having accomplished about two-thirds of it. I still have to do the upper portion from New Jersey across the Great Lakes to Chicago and down the Illinois River to St. Louis. (Next lifetime, I suppose.) ...continue on next page



30 years elapsed before I came back to my love of 'Vairs. In 2021, I began a search for a new Early Model Corvair to commemorate my first Corvair and my mother. Finding the perfect one was a challenge. Finally,



I found a suitable replacement...a 1964 Monza A/T 110 convertible in Palomar Red. It wasn't Roman Red but I considered it "close enough." (And, I actually liked it!) Truthfully, I loved that car and it was and still is my "favorite" Corvair. In 2023, I got an offer that I couldn't refuse for this 'Vair. It went to California and is still owned by the buyer to this day. He's taken it to a new level with a custom console with big screen, new paint job in Palomar Red, custom beach umbrella mount in center and upgraded sound system.



The past few years brought me two "final" Corvairs...a '68 Monza convertible purchased from Gary Baldauf and another '64 Monza Spyder convertible purchased from Michael Hedges. I have this '64 Spyder currently and have no immediate plans to sell it. It is in very good condition with a few minor things needing corrections in 2026. I drive this car from Spring to Fall to car shows and local "cruise in" events.

Hope to see you this summer at Dayton Corvair Club events and other shows.



TECH TIPS

Tech Tips are to be used as a guide only. No guarantee is implied that the tech tips will work correctly, nor does the Dayton Corvair Club, the editor, or the author assume any liability.

GRAPHITE EXHAUST GASKETS

Corvair Center poster "flat_six" had an exhaust leak on one side of his engine. On examination he found that 2 of the 3 graphite gaskets had partially disintegrated.

Poster Jim Brandenburg said that when he installs new exhaust gaskets he tightens the nuts and then uses a ball peen hammer to pound on the manifold to seat the gasket and retightens the nuts. He does this several times. He also installs French locks, rather than lock washers, because he has them on hand, to keep the nuts from becoming loose. French locks are like washers with several tabs that are bent up against the nut to keep it from turning.

When the engines were built back in the 1960's, the gaskets would have been made using asbestos fiber, but then it was discovered that asbestos caused lung cancer. Corvairs get their warm heater air by passing it over the exhaust manifolds. So don't operate your Corvair with exhaust leaks. Poster Rex Johnson has a carbon monoxide detector that plugs into his cigarette lighter.

WORN PUSHRODS

Corvair Center poster 'flat_six' had a problem with worn pushrods.. These were Clark's standard pushrods with a non chamfered oil hole at the end. See the hole difference in Dave Motohead's picture below.

Poster "Dave Motohead" responded that after a number of push rod failures, GM went to a pushrod that had a chamfered hole at the end of the hollow pushrod. Dave says to pitch your China made pushrod and try to find set of good GM made pushrods with the chamfered hole.





CORVAIR ON FRONT PAGE

If you've snagged a copy of JEGS' February 2026 issue, you might have spotted a late model Corvair chilling on top of an "Auto Body Restoration Cart." It's like someone's Corvair decided to take a break from being a car and become a piece of modern art. Who cares if it looks like it's going to need a lot of work? It's front-page material! Taking a closer look at the Auto Body Restoration Cart,



one would wonder, how do you get the Corvair up on the cart? There are other alternatives out there with the "cart" low enough to place or roll under your Corvair and jack it up to any height you need.

Welcome to the Corvair Society of America



Since 1969, CORSA is the national club dedicated to the enjoyment of the Chevrolet Corvair. You are now a part of a group with a legacy of expertise and brand identity for the Corvair.

Your Guide to CORSA Member Services

As a member you can:

- Access current and past issues of the club magazine, The Communique, for cars, events and technical information
- Find chapters or other Corvair owners near you
- Check out merchandise, publications and vendor discounts available to members
- Free for members advertising; find + sell parts and cars
- Access the only Corvair Registry available

Special for Members:

- Annual International Corvair Convention
- Hagerty Insurance Discounts, (where state laws allow)
- Online video Meet Ups with Corvair experts

Join the CORSA On-line Community:

- CORSA Corvair Center Forum message board for help by Corvair experts
- Post photos of your car on Instagram and Facebook
- Check out CORSA You Tube Channel

Support the advocacy of Corvairs

- A place and organization to share Corvair events and stories to expand the visibility of these unique cars in the classic car community



Gateway to online member services, news, events and to locate other CORSA members

corvair.org



Mail: CORSA Executive Secretary Paul Bergstrom
P.O. Box 68, Long Lake MN 55356



Email: corcluboffice@gmail.com



Talk to the club office: 630-403-5010



Show your car and interact with other Corvair owners on Instagram [corva_corvair_official](https://www.instagram.com/corsa_corvair_official)



Learn: Videos on Corvair Society of America
You Tube Channel



Follow Corvair Society of America Facebook Page

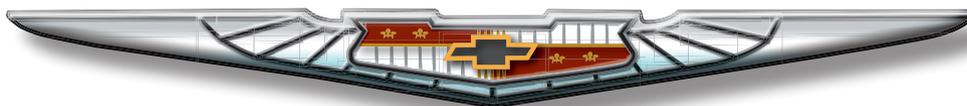


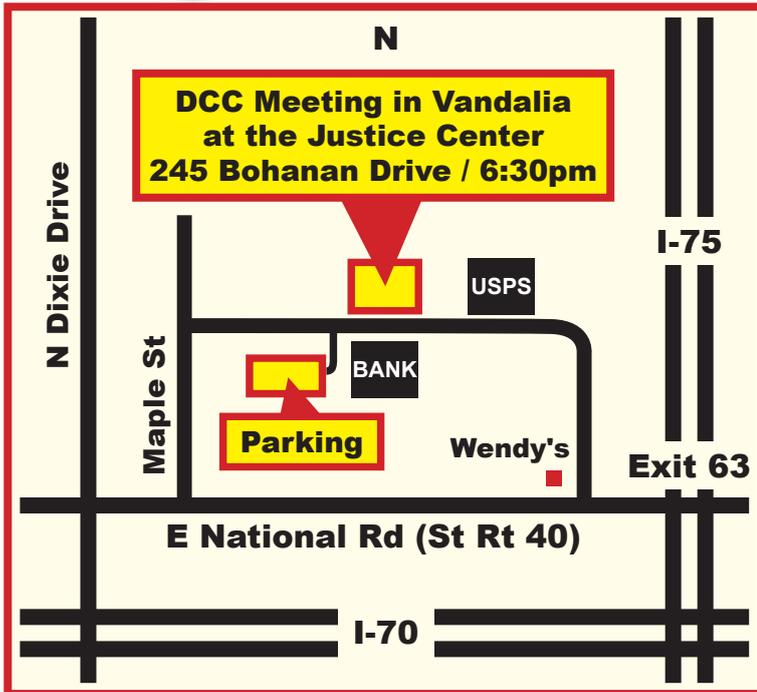
Learn and Share: Join the CORSA Corvair Center Forum community of Corvair Owners

[Corvair Center](#)

**OTHER POTENTIAL ACTIVITIES FOR 2026**

- America's Packard Museum
- American Veterans Heritage Center
- Aullwood Audubon Center and Farm
- Aviation Trail and Parachute Museum
- Bach Society of Dayton
- Boonshoft Museum of Discovery
- British Transportation Museum
- Brookville Community Theatre
- Carillon Historical Park
- Centerville-Washington History
- The Contemporary Dayton; Art Gallery
- Dayton Art Institute
- Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park
- Dayton Ballet Company
- Dayton Contemporary Dance Company
- Dayton Dragons Baseball
- The International Peace Museum
- Dayton Opera
- Dayton Performing Arts Alliance
- Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra
- Dayton Playhouse
- Dayton Theatre Guild
- Paul Laurence Dunbar House Historical Site
- Frazee Pavilion
- Orville Wright Hawthorn Hill
- Historical Society of Vandalia-Butler
- Hollywood Gaming at Dayton Raceway
- Huffman Prairie Flying Field & Interpretive Center
- Human Race Theatre Company
- K12 Gallery & TEJAS
- Levitt Pavilion
- Miamisburg Mound State Memorial
- Mound Science and Energy Museum Association
- Muse Machine
- Musica, Dayton's Chamber Choir
- National Aviation Hall of Fame
- National Museum of the USAF
- Patterson Homestead Museum
- Rose Music Center at the Heights
- 2nd Street Market
- Benjamin & Marian Schuster Performing Arts Center
- Sun Watch Indian Village/ Archaeological Park
- Dayton Live: Victoria Theatre
- Woodland Cemetery and Arboretum
- Wright Brothers National Museum
- Wright B Flyer at Dayton Wright Brothers Airport
- The Wright Cycle Company / Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center
- Wright Dunbar Inc's Dayton Region Walk of Fame





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We are on the web! To join the Dayton Corvair Club and CORSA visit:
DaytonCorvairClub.com 

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DCC New Membership Application Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ St _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

Email _____

CORSA Member \$12 / Non-CORSA Member \$15
 Make check to *Dayton Corvair Club* and mail to:
Angela Bannerman
6467 W Decker Road
Franklin, OH 45005

New 2019-2025 Clark Catalog!
 (Order CAT-9 \$8)

 Check the new website!
 Many improvements with
 more coming by June.

Clark's Corvair Parts®
 400 Mohawk Trail, Shelburne Falls, MA 01370
 413-625-9776 • fax: 413-625-8498
www.corvair.com • email: clarks@corvair.com



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