



# DAYTON Corvair



CHAPTER 454

## CHRONICLE

APRIL 2020

Welcome to our Corvair club members in this unprecedented time due to the Corona virus. We hope everyone is well and avoiding the virus. We continue to stay hunkered down so the April visit to D & D Restorations and the meeting at Buffalo Jacks will not take place. Club president Shawn Funkhouser is trying to get everyone to set up SKYPE on their computer, iPad, or smart phone so that we can do a virtual meeting. To do this you need a camera and video capability.

How about his statement about the current situation. We used to cough to cover a fart. Now we fart to cover up a cough. A little laughter is good isn't it?

### APRIL ACTIVITY

Our April visit to D & D Restorations in Covington, Ohio has been postponed to a later date. Now that doesn't mean that we can't have any car activities at home. Everyone does have several Corvairs at home just waiting on time to work on them don't they? This stay at home has curtailed my luncheons and has helped free up time to work in the garage although now that spring is here yard work is starting to compete with car work.

### MAY ACTIVITY

At this time our club Dayton Dragons baseball game for May is on hold. The season has been delayed and it is not clear when the season will start and how the games will be played. Double headers could get the games played but how would you handle the people? The games are sold out but a number of fans only have a quarter of the season. I guess you could have an hour or more between games and make all the fans from the first game leave and then the fans from the second game go to their seats. So when will our game be held? As soon as we know, you will know.


### CORSA CONVENTION CANCELED


From the Corsa website the listing for the 2020 Corsa Convention in San Diego had been canceled. Other events like the mini-convention in Illinois at the new Corvair museum in June and the Yenko Stinger/ Supercar Reunion at the Corvette Museum in July has not been canceled as of this date. Before attending any show check with the state if a two week self quarantine is required after returning to Ohio.

### CLARK'S CORVAIRITIS

During the pandemic Clark's Corvair Parts temporarily ceased operation. The notice below probably caused some disruption with everyone stocking up on important Corvair parts besides toilet paper.


Covid-19 shutdown






[Website](#)   [Order Parts](#)   [Online Catalog](#)   [Contact Us](#)

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As of 12:00 3/24/2020 Clarks Corvair is shut down due to Covid 19. Governor Baker announced the order would take effect at noon Tuesday and last until noon on April 7. The order closes all non-essential businesses to workers and the public, except for essential workers. Please note that we will not be answering phones, e mails or processing orders until further notice. We will let everyone know as soon as we are back open. We thank all our loyal customers for their years of business and understanding at this time. Clarks Corvair Parts.

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## Corvair Society of America

Founded in 1969 by and for those who still appreciate the Corvair Automobile - [www.corvair.org](http://www.corvair.org).

To join visit [www.daytoncorvairclub.wix.com/daytoncorvairclub](http://www.daytoncorvairclub.wix.com/daytoncorvairclub) and select "Join".



## DAYTON CLUB MEMBER STATUS

During the shut down and stay at home ordered by the state because of Covid-19, we reached out and asked how are the members of the Dayton Corvair Club doing?

*The Smith brothers are doing great! - David Smith*

*Susan and I are doing fine. With the stay at home order in place it is like a vacation or time off from work but with no place to go. With time to spare we have been taking daily walks at different area parks. I also have been doing a lot of yard work tending our flower beds and organizing the garage. - Kevin Clark*

*Hello, Mostly house stuff, bike rides and walks. Cindy & I are doing ok, no problems. I work at Miami Valley Hospital, so I'm not laid off yet. Trying to stay safe and out of the way of the doom. Be safe everyone! - Doug Simon*

*Brenda and I are doing well so far. Trying to keep the trips to the store at a minimum. Found an old N95 mask in the garage. Not sure how long it had been there. Used it several times last week.*

*I may have dodged the bullet though. I eat lunch with some old work friends every Wed. Our last lunch was 4 weeks ago. I just found out that one of our regulars is in ICU with the virus. He exhibited symptoms a week after we had that last lunch together. All the others who attended are OK including one 87 year old who usually sits across from the infected person. I guess the hospitalized one was virus free the day of that last lunch but picked it up very soon afterward. I remember that the waitress that day would not refill our drinks with our old cups. She gave us new ones. Good luck to everyone.*

*Might have more time for the garage now with limits on interaction with the public. - James Stukenborg*

*Hello everyone, my wife Lori and I are doing fine somehow. She is a grocery manager at Kroger in Eaton and it's a miracle she hasn't come down with this virus yet. We take plenty of precautions at the house. She gets a level and I get a level HA!*

*Dad is doing well but its hard to keep him in his house! Work at the shop has ground to a halt because we don't want to be around each other just yet. Hope everybody else is doing well. - Shawn Funkhouser*

*Betty, Rob and I have been staying home and doing well. Betty is raising plants and getting the garden ready. Rob seems to be fine staying home, following me around in the shop and taking walks. I have been working on putting together a Windsor chair, making plant stands, and building a knife target for my grandson.*

*I don't know what I would do without my shop. We will be happy when this is over. Stay well! - Dennis Kugler*

*Hello everyone, Darcy and I are still working. Darcy has reduced hours, but she is considered an essential worker, driving for the local transit company here in Champaign County. Navistar, my employer, is also considered an essential business, providing trucks for the transportation industry. Our production lines have been down for two weeks already. We have been getting the remaining inventory ready for shipment. Two weeks ago there were 600 trucks waiting to be processed. Today there are 9 and those should go tomorrow. I am anticipating that I may be on layoff next week. Finally some time to work on the station wagon and the 69. Best regards. - Duane and Darcy Baker*

*Ray is doing much better now and communicates, he is confined to bed and being tube fed as well by machine. Once the Pandemic is over anyone that would like to visit dad can get ahold of Rob at (937) 236-8292 Home or (937)367-4116 cell. He can receive txt messages at this number. I'm sure Dad would love to see some of the members he knows well. It has been a long battle but at least we know Dad is now getting good care.*

*God Bless - Loretta Petty*

*Glad to hear everyone seems to be handling things well. Work has blown up on me taking evenings and weekends. Just thankful to have a job at this point. On the plus side, my drive to downtown Cincinnati is much quicker now. - Gregory A. Brush*

## MARCH MEETING MINUTES

**Minutes:** Dayton Corvair Club, 3/24/2020 Monthly Meeting, 6:30 P.M.(canceled)

We did not have a meeting because of the "Social Distancing" guidelines and the Justice Center was not open. However, we did receive a note from one of our members that we can share here. (Secretary Joe Dranschak)

*Dear Club Members:*

*I am so sorry I forgot to pay my 2020 dues. I have had some health issues, and getting older with some memory troubles. I thought I was a member, but will gladly send the \$15 for 2020 dues since I live so far away on the eastern side of Ohio.*

*Our Corvair, with 28,000 miles on the odometer, has now a top engine noise that I hope to have looked at when spring is really here.*

*I hope you all stay healthy – Your friend John W. Hawkins*

## HISTORY HAPPENS

At our February, 2016 Club meeting we decided we would add a history article to our newsletter under the heading “History Happens.” This article is an edited version of a Hemmings Motor News article about the last Corvair built. For the entire article and several comments from Corvair enthusiasts use the link in the “Credits” below.

***Half A Century Later, The Fate Of The Last Corvair Ever Built Remains Unknown*** by Daniel Strohl Feb 11, 2019. In the months leading up to the final day of production for the Chevrolet Corvair, General Motors fielded calls from dealers, executives, and VIPs requesting a chance to buy the very last Corvair. Thus the scheduled final production day for the Corvair — May 14, 1969 — drew national media attention. The very last of the 6,000 scheduled 1969 Corvairs, an Olympic Gold Monza coupe fitted with a 95-hp engine, Powerglide automatic transmission, pushbutton radio, tinted glass, whitewall tires, door edge guards, custom deluxe seat belts, electric clock, remote control rearview mirror and rear window defogger rolled out of the Willow Run Assembly Plant. It carried a serial number of 105379W706000. However, as the press filed out of the Willow Run plant, workers rolled that Olympic Gold coupe away, into one of automotive history’s most enduring mysteries.

The Corvair #6000 had originally been ordered by one of the world’s legendary car collectors, Bill Harrah. Tacoma-based Chevrolet dealer John Wallerich placed the order for Harrah on April 1st for the very last VIN. Later, former GM executive vice president Harold Boyer placed an order for the last Corvair. By May 12, Chevrolet executives decided to keep #6000. They arranged to give #5999, a LeMans Blue Monza coupe to Boyer and #5968 to Harrah along with a second, much earlier, Corvair (#5606). So what happened to #6000? One oft-repeated tale has a mysterious van picking up #6000 and spirited it away from Willow Run. Another has it going to an unnamed GM director or vice president. Most Willow Run people said #6000 got scrapped, though by whose order or when or where nobody seems able to answer.



*Photo - Joe Strayhorn in Corvair #6000.  
Photo courtesy to Hemmings from Dave Newell.*

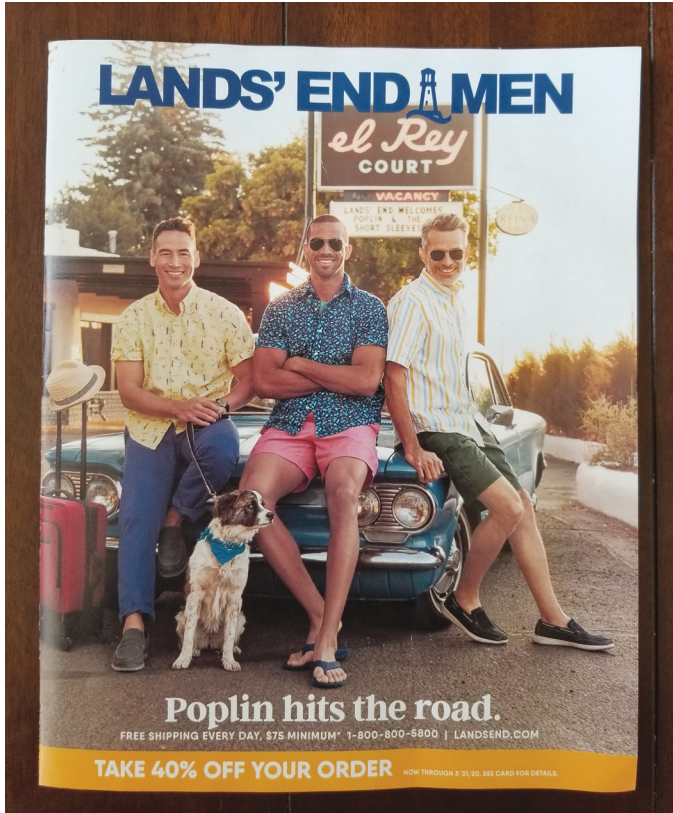
About 10 to 20 fully assembled Corvairs remained at the plant after the last day of production. These were set aside for internal GM use and possible lawsuits and government investigations. So, #6000 might have been one of these and one of these was later given to GM President Ed Cole. The last one of this Corvair group, a Forest Green 500 coupe with a serial number that ended in 5214, went to auction in March 1975 and later appeared for sale in Hemmings Motor News advertised, misleadingly, as “the last one ever produced.”

Over the years, several other late-production Corvairs have popped up onto Corvair collectors’ radar. Boyer’s #5999 now resides in the Corvair Museum in Decatur, Illinois, as does #5997, the last Corvair convertible produced, and an unnumbered Fisher body shell produced after #6000’s body shell but never assembled into a complete car. A number of other late-build Corvairs (among them #5996, #5995, #5994, #5989, #5988, and #5984) have been documented by the Corvair Society of America, though #5998 remains in the wind, as does any documented evidence as to the fate of #6000.

Credits: <https://www.hemmings.com/stories/2019/02/11/half-a-century-later-the-fate-of-the-last-covair-ever-built-remains-unknown>

**CORVAIR EXPOSED ON CLOTHING CATALOG**

Club member Greg Leingang sent these pictures in. His subscription to *Lands' End Men* clothing catalog shows some models posing with a sexy looking Corvaair. The '61 never go out of style. One size fits all. Just wash and wax, won't shrink. The publisher has good taste. Will they show other good looking models like Forward Controls and 65-69?



**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 Corvaair Club, the editor, or the author assume any liability.*

**AUTOZONE RARE PARTS**

Autozone has a list of rare parts and sometimes one can hit paydirt. Case in point. I needed a steering connecting rod for my 1961 shorty Rampside. The current one just looked a little worn and no one wants to be in a FC that can't be steered. This is the part that connects the Pitman arm on the steering box to the relay arm (commonly called the "boomerang" in FC speak). One end is 15" long and the other is a typical short tie rod end connected by an adjusting sleeve. Clark's no longer has the longer end of this rod. They have available a substitute longer adjusting sleeve and use two regular short tie rod ends. The 2020 price of the substitute sleeve and two end tie rod ends is \$270 plus shipping. Autozone did have the longer tie rod end for \$90 and \$30 for the short end. The long end was a right hand thread so I had to make sure the short end I ordered was a left hand thread. I did not come up with this on my own. The tip came from one of the posters at Corvaair Center.

**FINDING A TECH TOPIC ON CORVAIR CENTER**

One of the posters on Corvaair Center related that it is easier to find the topic by going through Google than using the search site on Corvaair Center. Go to google and ask for a specific topic on Corvaair Center. This is akin to having a librarian look up the topic you are trying to find while at the library.



**NEW 2020 DODGE CORONA**

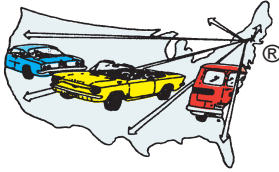
Here is a new one. This novel 2020 Dodge Corona is undergoing testing. The Elvira model shown here is equipped with options not yet available due to money shortages for employees staying at home. Options under review for urgent approval are: CHARMIN WIPE wall tires (helps FLATTEN BANKed CURVE). Special Wah-No-SPORTS Bra. FAUCI Eye monitors SOCIAL DISTANCING. High TEMPERATURE Automatic SHUT DOWN. Sanitizer. All options are standard on STIMULUS model.

<b>CORVAIR CLUB TENTATIVE CALENDAR OF MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES</b>	
04/25/20	<b>POSTPONED</b> - Sat., D&D Classic, 10:00 AM, Buffalo Jacks 11:45 AM (Club meeting)
05/19/20	<b>POSTPONED</b> - Dayton Dragons Game
05/26/20	<b>UPDATED</b> - Club monthly meeting Tuesday at <a href="#">Marion's Piazza</a> at 6:30 PM
06/??/20	Lebanon Mason Monroe Railroad – train ride (date/time TBD)
06/23/20	Club monthly meeting Tuesday at Vandalia Justice Center at 6:30 PM
07/06/20	50th CORSA Convention, San Diego Corvair Club, July 6-11, 2270 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, CA. 92108 <a href="http://www.sandiegocorvair.com/2020-convention.html">www.sandiegocorvair.com/2020-convention.html</a>
<b>CANCELED</b>	
07/18/20	Saturday - 31st Mid Ohio Meet, Columbus host at Buck Creek State Park
07/28/20	Club monthly meeting Tuesday at Vandalia Justice Center at 6:30 PM
08/15/20	'Vair Affair with Club meeting – celebrate our 48th anniversary (founded 1972)
09/20/20	Dayton Concours d'Elegance at Carillon Park – Joe will get more info
09/22/20	Club monthly meeting Tuesday at Vandalia Justice Center at 6:30 PM
10/??/20	Gary Funkhouser Tech Session - Date TBD
10/27/20	Marion's Pizza, N. Dixie Dr., Tuesday, 6:30 PM, & Club meeting
11/??/20	Mustang Museum – TBD
11/24/20	Club monthly meeting Tuesday at Vandalia Justice Center at 6:30 PM
12/12 /20	Club Christmas Dinner & Meeting, Cristy's in Huber Heights (Sat) 4:30 PM



### 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

# Corvair

## SERVICE / PARTS / REPAIR

Gary & Shawn Funkhouser 937-751-2918  
gary.funkhouser@yahoo.com

Greg Hanlin 937-277-3268

Sid Roth 937-622-0587

We are on the web! To join the Dayton  
Corvair Club and CORSA visit:  
[http://daytoncorvairclub.wix.com/  
daytoncorvairclub](http://daytoncorvairclub.wix.com/daytoncorvairclub)



#### CLUB OFFICERS

President	Shawn Funkhouser shawn.a.funkhouser@bwigroup.com
Vice President:	Steve Kianka November 5, 1932 - February 15, 2020 RIP
Secretary	Joe Dranschak 1328 Cornish Drive Vandalia, OH 45377 937-898-6689 jdrans01@aol.com
Treasurer	Jennie Dranschak 1328 Cornish Drive Vandalia, OH 45377 937-898-6689 heavenjld@aol.com
Activities	Kevin Clark 4801 Rean Meadows Dr. Kettering, OH 45440 daytoncorvairclub@gmail.com
Membership	Paul Huelskamp
Newsletter Editor:	Jim Stukenborg 2896 Rhett Dr. Beavercreek, OH 45434 937-429-2291 jlstuk@juno.com
Webmaster	Kevin Clark daytoncorvairclub@gmail.com

### Directions to the club meeting

Coming from the east the Justice Center is just down the side road from the Wendy's restaurant that is located on Rt-40 just west of the Vandalia exit from I-70. This side road at Wendy's is James Bohanan Dr. The street address of the justice center is 245 Bohanan Dr. From the west turn left at the BP station turn right on J.E. Bohanan Dr. The Justice Center door is on the east side of the building. Go in the side door and through the door to the dispatch center. The meeting room is to the left past the dispatcher. A public parking lot is available at the corner of James E. Bohanan Dr. and Maple St. behind the bank and some street parking is available. The parking lot next to the justice center side door is short term during the day. We don't know about availability in the evening. Note: The room is on the west side of the building. If some of the club members are already there you may be able to enter through the side door to the room. They can let you in or may have the door blocked open.

Send regular mail to:



**Jennie Dranschak**  
**1328 Cornish Drive**  
**Vandalia, OH 45377**

Email articles, pictures, ads to:  
**daytoncorvairclub@gmail.com**

