



CHAPTER 454

DAYTON *Corvair*

CHRONICLE



MARCH 2023

MARCH MEETING / ACTIVITY

Our March meeting will be one of our Pizza meetings. The meeting takes place at Marions at 3443 North Dixie Dr. in Dayton just west of the

Wagner Ford exit on I-75. The date is Tuesday March 28th. Be there at 6:30 PM. We will start with the meeting while we wait on the pizza. We chose this location since it has a separate meeting room and is sort of equal distance for north and south members. As



before, the club pays for the pizza, and all else is on the individual. This is a family event so bring the kids and grandkids. The Pizzeria is located on the southbound side of North Dixie. One needs to turn right and do a U-turn coming from Wagner Road off I-75.

CONVENTION UPDATE

After Mike Hall announced he had signed a deal with the host hotel during a video conference at our February meeting, work had begun to get moving.

Sign up sheets were sent to regional club presidents for their members pick and choose tasks and/or become leaders in certain activities. Emails began to trickle in offering to help anywhere they are needed. Scouting areas for an autocross, we found UD arena would be the best place to have one if we are permitted to hold one there.

The hottest item on the must do list is finding a Convention Activities Chairperson and a design with a theme. A preliminary design was presented and other ideas were discussed during a video conference among the DCC officers. A tabletop presentation board and flyers with a

QR code to a website promoting the Dayton convention would be needed in time before this years convention in Wisconsin. It was decided the officers will continue the video conference on a weekly basis.



JERRY FRITTS

Former Corvair club member, Jerry Fritts, passed away on Feb 23rd of this year. Jerry was probably the most outgoing member that we have had. His unique car exploits have been discussed a number of times amongst our club members. ...continue on page 3.



Corvair Society of America

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

To join visit www.daytoncorvairclub.wix.com/daytoncorvairclub and select "Join".



FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES



Our meeting was called to order by our President Shawn Funkhouser by welcoming all in attendance, both in person and online. We appreciated all the support shown to help us with the convention in 2024! Shawn thanked those that came to the clubs planning meeting on Feb 17, 2023. We have a lot of great events coming up!

Those in attendance included Craig Puthoff, Mike and Glenda Bayman, Kevin Clark, Angie Chaffins, Shawn Funkhouser, Gary Funkhouser, Jim Schmidt, Jim Stukenborg, Verle McGillivray, Shaun, Mike and Michael Gitzinger, Wendell Pace, Steve Deak, Darcy and Duane Baker. We had 12 attending online which included Corsa's President Mike Hall. Duane is working out the bugs of being online, so stay tuned.

Our Vice President Verle didn't have anything new at this time.

Secretary Darcy asked that the January minutes be accepted as written in the newsletter, motioned by Gary Funkhouser and Jim Stukenborg.

Our Treasurer Angie reported she received more membership dues, if you haven't paid your dues yet, please pay to Angie. Our ending balance as of January was \$2437.58. She paid Kevin for tee shirts, received 50/50 for tonight's drawing, paid Corsa dues for the club, paid for the pizza at the planning meeting, the ending balance is now \$2370.63. If you have any questions or want to see the detailed ledger, ask Angie at any time.

Our Membership officer - Paul was not in attendance.

Our Activities officer Kevin announced he had made the reservation for attending the Dayton Dragons baseball game on May 16, 2023, the D & D outing in Covington Ohio with the clubs meeting during lunch at Buffalo Jacks is April 22, 2023

At this time, we asked Corsa President Mike Hall to fill us in on the status of the 2024 convention. Mike said the contract has been signed with Marriott Hotel at the University of Dayton for July 21 – July 26, 2024. We need to select a convention chairman to oversee the weeks activities with our many volunteers. We need to design tee shirts, come up with a slogan, contact Dayton's visitor bureau Ron Eifert to give ideas of activities in the area, along with shopping, restaurants, museums, and parks to attend throughout the week. We will share the Dayton Marriott with the Impala club. They will be doing everything on their own.

Corsa will fund the conventions events. We'll need to find a trophy shop that can work with us during the week to be able to give out all awards at the banquet. Hoping to budget \$25.00 per trophy, with a total of 134 trophies needed, 50 of those going to the concourse participants. Other trophies given to valve cover race, autocross, road rally, economy run winners. We'll need at least 600 goody bags with donations from companies.

During the day of the car show, a reunion of all Shriner cars will be in the parking lot!

Kevin was able to attend the Columbus and Cincinnati club meetings and has gotten more volunteers to help. We appreciate every one's willingness to make the 2024 Corvair convention the best!

Our 50/50 drawing came to \$21.00, Shaun Gitzinger won \$10.50 and gave \$5.00 back!

Special guest Tim Fritts asked for anyone willing to drive their Corvair in the funeral procession on March 3, to honor his Dad Jerry Fritts who passed away at age 98. Tim shared his dad had lots of Corvairs over the years along with lots of parts that he was willing to give anyone that needed them. Gary Funkhouser shared a few amusing stories of Jerry. He must have been a fun guy to be around.

The meeting ended with our heads spinning from hearing what it will take to put on a successful convention, but we are confident and extremely excited to be a part of this!

Respectfully submitted,
Darcy Baker
Secretary



Honoring Jerry Fritts at night of viewing.



Special guest Tim Fritts

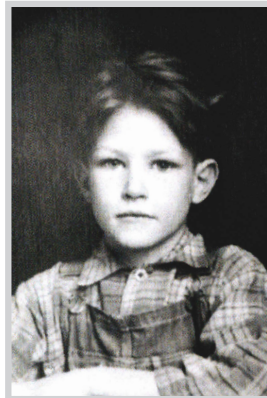
JERRY FRITTS ...continued

Those who have driven on County Line Rd. on the west side of Greene County may not have known Jerry, but they knew where Jerry lived. He always had Corvairs in his driveway. His son Tim said that at one time he had seven Corvairs parked at the house. Two in the driveway, two on one side of the house, one on the other side, and two in the back yard. Only Jerry could have charmed his neighbors into allowing him to do that.

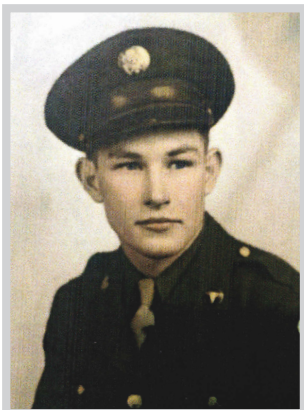


The following information has been taken from the funeral pass out: Harry Gerald Fritts went home to be with his Savior on February 23, 2023. No one who met him, forgot him; he made sure of that. You went away with a joke, a poem, a memento, or candy.

He was born in Knoxville, Tennessee on February 9, 1925. He never lost his southern accent after 71 years in Dayton, Ohio, and he loved his Southern heritage. He and his brothers spent much time and traveled many miles to tack down their Fritts roots.



Herbert, his dad, gave Jerry an industrious and hard working spirit. They lived on a farm, a few years and Herbert, who was a carpenter like his grandfather



before him, built their home by himself. Jerry's mother, Leta was a godly prayerful influence on Jerry, as well as on many others in their community, and she introduced him to his savior, Jesus Christ, at Westview Methodist Church.

He was an ornery and active child and has told us all many tales. In 1943, at 18 he had a short stint in the Army during

WWII. In 1945, he married Helen Williams, and they had a daughter, Carol Lynn on November 11, 1945. They divorced in 1946.

Jerry was a very good-looking young man and always looked sharp. He trained as a draftsman and had several jobs, including a cab driver. Jerry joined the painter's union,



The IUPAT, and traveled as a painter for several years, setting up job sites all over the country. In 1951 he met Margaret Annabelle Ulman in Akron, Ohio and they were married. They moved to Knoxville Tennessee, and Cynthia Marie (Fritts)

Buck was born there on June 19, 1952.

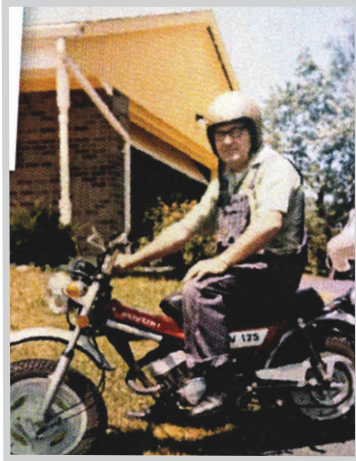
That same year, they moved to Dayton, Ohio where they met Gerald Fleming, the pastor at Dayton Baptist Temple. Jerry rededicated his life to Christ, attended the church and was the youth pastor for a while. He helped paint the new building, including the ceiling that was 50 feet high. On January 12, 1954, Cathy Jerilyn (Fritts) Hill was born. Soon after that, Jerry and Margaret were instrumental in starting Vandalia Baptist Temple in their home, and shortly after Jerry felt called to be a preacher. On September 25, 1957, Timothy Gerald Fritts was born, and shortly after his birth the family left for Arlington, Texas, pulling a 35 foot trailer with a station wagon.

Jerry attended Bible Baptist Seminary in Arlington, Texas, full-time while supporting a family as the maintenance, handyman, do-it-all man for the seminary. During that time, he had a large vegetable garden, built a log cabin playhouse, built on to the trailer, and would preach and sing at churches whenever he could. During the summer they would return to Dayton so he could work. He graduated in May 1960, after which they moved back to Dayton, Ohio. Rebekah Ann (Fritts) Stein was born in Dayton on November 19, 1961.

Jerry would go on for the next few years and preach at the mission, the prison, was part of the deaf ministry at church, and went on several trips with pastor Fleming to the holy land. The family attended Washington Heights Baptist Church and West Street Baptist for a few years. During those years, he worked as a painter and even started his own company for a while. Before he retired, he worked at Wright Patterson Air Force Base as a maintenance painter. After he retired, he ran the apprentice program for Mike Thomas at the #249 local painters union and ended up being in the union for 72 years.



Jerry was known to build anything he put his mind to. He added a porch to his house, extended the living room, and built a garage and barn in the back. He had a motorcycle and for a while had an obsession with Corvairs. For years the driveway would have several Corvairs he was working on. Also, he was a Mason for 70 years.



Jerry had a booming voice, intimidated many of his daughters' suitors. He could never answer in a routine manner. He always wanted to seem young and vibrant and wanted to tell a story or a joke or sing a song. Even in his later years, nurses at the hospital and rehab center would be serenaded and the doctors heard many a poem when Jerry would visit.

You could always always count on him to be there if you were in need. Friends and family members would call with car trouble or need help with house renovations, and he would be there in a short time to help. He loved his sons-in-law and daughter-in-law and would do anything to help them.

Jerry hated getting old, and dependent and longed to go home to Jesus at the end of his days. He had a very positive and grateful spirit, and everyone who met him loved him. He has left a big hole in our lives and will be greatly missed.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Margaret (Ulman) Fritts, mother, Leta (Wise) Frins, father, Herbert Fritts, great-granddaughter, Ava Buck, great-grandson, Ames

Buck, brothers, Larry Fritts, Thomas Fritts, Sidney Fritts, and sister, Barbara (Fritts) Page.

He left behind his sister, Ruth Ann (Fritts) Perry, daughters Carol Johnson, Cynthia Buck (Michael), Cathy Hill (Chris), Becky Stein (Doug), and son Tim Fritts (Marcia), 14 grandchildren, Randy Hill (Lisa), Mindee (Hill) Berg (Jeff), Eric Hill (Caren), Brett Hill, Joshua Buck (Shelly), Geoffrey Buck (Sarah Beth), Emilee (Fritts) Munafo (Jason), Jessica (Fritts) DiPerna (Anthony), Megan (Fritts) Myers (Ricky), Molly (Fritts) Crotty (Sean), Nicole (Stein) Cook (Aaron), Lindsay (Stein) Blakely (Adam), Brooke (Stein) Shoemaker (Paul), and Brandon Stein, and 30 great-grandchildren, with twins on the way.

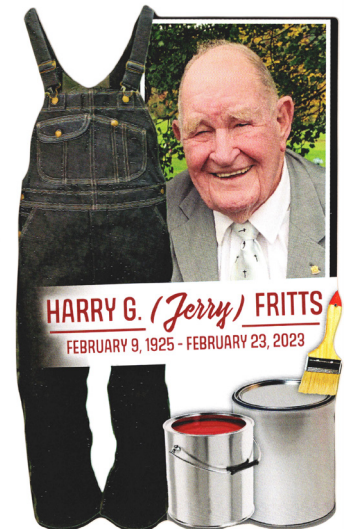
Visitation will be Thursday, March 2 from 6-8 PM and Friday, March 3 from 11:00-12:30 PM at Cornerstone Baptist Temple (1707 Ohmer Ave Dayton, OH 45410). Funeral service is Friday, March 3 at 12:30 PM, with graveside service to follow at Miami Valley Memory Gardens.

Donations to the following ministries can be sent instead of flowers:

Josh and Shelly Buck Family ministries
<https://www.joshandshellybuck.org/invest>

Back2Back Ministries
<https://www.back2back.org/donations>

You are welcome to send a condolence, plant a tree, and share a story or picture about Harry at www.ConnerAndKoch.com.



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.

HUGE COLLECTION OF CORVAIR INFO BY BRIAN BLACKWELL

The collection covers about anything you ever wondered about doing with your Corvair. Some of the topics include:

- Autocrossing
- Car building
- Engine building
- Projects
- Cool cars
- Non stock wheels
- Non stock tire combos
- Changing wheel Studs
- Steering boxes and wheels
- Late model sway bar on an early
- A number of 2003 Convention photos

To access this info, Google: Autox Skiblack



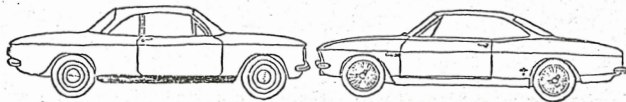
HISTORY HAPPENS...From Joe's Archive

Joe had been a regular contributor to History Happens, filling our pages with histories and stories about the Corvair found on the internet. After his passing Joe's son David Dranschak had donated a box belonging to Joe with "Corvair Stuff" written on it. This is what we found.



Lois Troutwine at Indiana car show in 1983. Note turbocharged dune buggy. Could this be the long lost dune buggy someone wrote about in Corsa several years ago? Someone regretted selling it and later recognizing it at a car show several decades later. Corvair Chronicle below is from December 1979 or '80. Note the dues amount is less than the one shown last month with the April 1977 newsletter with increases to \$15. Not sure how to explaining that.

CORVAIR . CHRONICLE



Dear Member:

If you missed the November meeting, you probably missed the most productive meeting in a long time. First, and foremost was the election of new officers for the coming year. They are as follows:

- President - Frank Montgomery
- Vice President - Gary Funkhouser
- Activities Chairman - Denny Kugler
- Directors - Ben Young
Howard Watkins

A lot of changes are going to be made for the new year to make the Club more fun, interesting and to stimulate more membership participation.

New Business:

A motion was made to resurrect the use of the windshield hand out cards and was discussed and approved. If you older members will recall, these cards stimulated a lot of interest in our Club. For you newer members, these cards are business cards with our logo printed on them. If you see a Corvair, you would slip one of these cards under the windshield wiper with your name and phone number. At the next meeting we will issue some of these cards to all who attend. Speaking of attendance, we have over 40 paid members and only about half of these attend the meetings. Where are the rest of you? Come on we can do better than this.

Another motion was made to provide a better newsletter, more professional looking with more information for the club. This motion was tabled for more discussion and cost evaluation. If any of you members have access to inexpensive printing facilities please contact Gary Funkhouser, 836-1471.

Old Business:

Dues Increase

At present the yearly dues are \$6.00 for single and \$9.00 family. A motion was made to increase the dues to \$8.00 for single and \$12.00 for family. Per the Dayton Corvair Club By-Laws, "Article 2, Section 2A&B there must be a two month waiting period from

DAYTON CORVAIR CLUB

- 2 -

the original motion to a vote by the membership. There will be a vote on the dues at the January meeting. I might add that some thought should go into your vote. Because of inflation, new programs, parties, etc. an increase is a must. Also the 1980 dues are due in January.

Other Business:

If you have any technical articles, hot tips or anything you would like to see in the newsletter, please contact the editor for we will be glad to enter it in the next edition.

Alex Webber would like some information on synthetic oils, Corvair oil coolers and the advantages or disadvantages of the late model spoiler.

Pat Pickett came up with some very good ideas with water injection and needs a working Corvair smog pump to help him out.

For Sale - 4 wire wheel covers with spinner - late model
3 are good - Curb damage
1 is fair - More curb damage
\$75.00
Gary Funkhouser
836-1471

Wanted - 66 or later Monza w/4 spd.
2 dr. hardtop, little or no rust - cheap
Mark Ashworth
548-2819

The Treasurers report shows a balance of \$80.00 at the November meeting.

Due to the Christmas Holidiay the December meeting will be on Tuesday, December 18 at 7:30 p.m. White Allen Chevrolet.

SEE YOU ALL THERE,

Editor: Gary Funkhouser
836-1471



CORVAIR CLUB TENTATIVE CALENDAR OF MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

March	
03.28.23	Club meeting at Marion's in Dayton - 3443 N. Dixie Drive - 6:30PM
April	
04.22.23	D&D Classic Restoration Tour in Covington - 2300 Mote Dr. - 10AM
04.22.23	Club meeting at Buffalo Jacks - 137 S. High St - Covington - 11:45AM
May	
05.16.23	Dayton Dragons game. 20 tickets available.
05.23.23	Club meeting in Vandalia at JC - 6:30PM
June	
06.17.23	Mid-Ohio Meet - Caesar Creek - Cincinnati hosting celebrating 50th year
06.19-24.23	Corsa Convention at Chula Vista Resort in Dells, WI
06.27.23	Club meeting in Vandalia at JC - 6:30PM
July	
07.04.23	Champaign Cruiser's Car Show - 8 AM-4 PM - \$10/Car - Spectators free Skelley Lumber Co., 1300 N Main St. Urbana
07.25.23	Club meeting in Vandalia at JC - 6:30PM
August	
08.____.23	Road Rally / Poker Run
08.19.23	Cars & Coffee
08.22.23	Club meeting in Vandalia at JC - 6:30PM
September	
TBD	Cars & Coffee - Austin Blvd. Springboro
	Search for Caterer and location for Christmas dinner party
09.26.23	Club meeting in Vandalia at JC - 6:30PM / Appoint nominating committee
October	
10.07.23	Vair Affair at Shawn's Corvair Shop
10.25.23	Club meeting at Marion's in Dayton - 3443 N. Dixie Drive - 6:30PM
November	
11.28.23	Club meeting in Vandalia at JC - 6:30PM
December	
TBD	Christmas dinner / Election
Possible Activities	Air Force Museum Covered Bridge Tour Tech Sessions Parade

LET'S GO *CRUISE-IN*' AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

Apr 22 - Oct 7	Kettering Saturday Night Cruise-In. 2250 E Stroop Rd. 4pm to dark.
Apr 08	Cars & Coffee - Springfield. 99 N Fountain Ave. 9am-noon
Aug 27	16th Annual Car Show at Culp Lake. 1830 E Home Rd. Springfield. 9am-3:30pm.



OUR 50TH ANNIV - 2023

Thanks to the support of 1,000's of Corvair owners over the last 50 years we continue to grow and reproduce more parts every year. Have a great year and enjoy our monthly sales and specials all year-Joan & Cal Clark

SPECIAL SALES EVERY MONTH- each month we'll send an email (if you have signed up) and list in a sale section on our Home page www.corvair.com

FREE 50th MEMENTO gifts with your first order in 2023

LIST YOUR CORVAIR FOR SALE- NO CHARGE- sell your Corvair or a spare you just don't have time for! For all of 2023 we will list it on our website at **NO CHARGE-** check website (Corvairs For Sale)

CLARK CAR SHOW & PARTS SALES- See our 2023 supplement or website for more details. We expect around 130 cars, and will offer tours of our buildings including the Upholstery Dept. Slide show by Cal. Parts on sale! **SEPT 16, 2023 - rain or shine**

2023 SUPPLEMENT- On our website or as a hard copy -many new repros & updates.

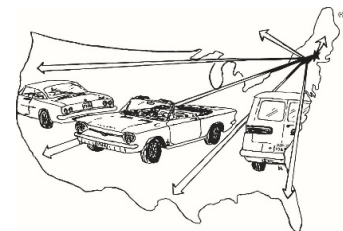
INTERNATIONAL CORSA CONVENTION -Wisconsin- We will be there Tues, Wed & Thurs with lots of recent repros on display. Stop by and say hello. Convention dates June 19 - June 24

CATALOG- over 450 pages, free with an order, \$8 postpaid in USA

Clark's Corvair Parts
400 Mohawk Trail
Shelburne Falls, MA
01370

413-625-9776

www.corvair.com





Directions to the club meeting at:

Vandalia Justice Center -

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. Bohanon Dr. and Maple St. behind the bank and some street parking is available. 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.

Vandalia Historical Society Meeting House/Shelter -

It is only 2 minutes from the Justice Center. It is located at 336 East Alkaline Springs Road. From the Justice Center (or I-75) drive west on National Road to the Dixie Drive Highway intersection. Turn left (south) onto Dixie Drive and continue on Dixie to the stoplight at Elva Court then continue on Dixie to the next street on your left (just past the Vandalia-Butler High School), and turn left (east) onto East Alkaline Springs Road. You will see the City Art Park on your right and just past the park is a long wood picket fence in front of the Society property. Turn right into the driveway and drive back around the barn to the parking area and the Meeting House / Shelter. There are restrooms in the Meeting House if needed. It would be a good idea to bring your mask for that additional step of protection.



Find us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/daytoncorvairclub.ohio



*We are on the web! To join the Dayton Corvair Club and CORSA visit:
<http://daytoncorvairclub.wix.com/daytoncorvairclub>*



Send articles, pictures, ads to:
daytoncorvairclub@gmail.com

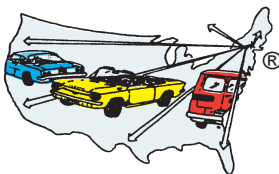
**Kevin Clark
4801 Rean Meadow Dr.
Kettering, OH 45440**

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New 2019-2025 Clark Catalog!

(Order CAT-9 \$8)



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

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GEM CITY CORVAIR REPAIR

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