



DAYTON Corvair



CHAPTER 454

CHRONICLE

JULY 2020

JULY MEETING

We will not be going to Marion's Piazza for the July meeting. We are going to have another outdoor meeting in person. Joe Dranschak has reserved the Vandalia Historical Society shelter for the meeting. The Vandalia Justice Center is still not open for meeting use. There are four picnic tables at the shelter and everyone can bring a chair that we can use for distancing. The June



meeting at the Historical Society shelter worked out well. Joe brought out extra chairs for those who did not bring one. Might be a good idea to wear a mask. The date is Tuesday July 28 at our regular time of 6:30 PM. The directions to the shelter are now located on the last page.

CLUB ACTIVITIES

Looks like the Dragon's season is not going to happen. We will have to wait until next year for our club outing.

Our visit to D & D restorations is still on hold until we hear from D & D.

The Mid Ohio Meet has been canceled for this year. Columbus will have it next year.

The "Vair Affair" is still on for Saturday August 15th. We will discuss it at the July meeting to see if everyone is comfortable coming to the "Affair" in light of the current Covid-19 situation. An e-mail will be sent to all about the decision at the meeting.

VAIR AFFAIR

Like many of our club activities the "Vair Affair" is tentative at this time. It will be discussed at the July meeting. One problem is that in past years we have had everyone bring a dish to share. Some people may be a little wary of doing this in this day of the virus. As in the last 4 years it has been held at Verle McGillivray's home just north of New Carlisle and that is where it is planned again this year. If you do not plan to be at the July meeting e-mail or call one of the officers and let us know your thoughts on this. Kevin will e-mail everyone after the meeting on our final decision.

Should we go ahead with the "Affair" this is how to get there. Head north through New Carlisle for a mile and half or so on Rt-235. A little ways past the golf course (on the left side of the road) turn right on Sigler Rd. Verle's house is the first on the left side of the road. The address is 10942 Sigler Rd. Be there around 10 AM on Saturday August 15.

RAY PETTY PASSES AWAY

Long time Corvair club member Ray Petty passed away early Saturday morning, July 18. Ray had been in a nursing home since early in the new year due to medical issues. It has been a little over two years since Ray's wife Pauline passed away from cancer. We will have more on Ray in the August newsletter. Here is a link to his obit:



<https://www.newcomerdayton.com/Obituary/187115/Raymond-Petty%2c-Jr/Dayton-OH>

Corvair Society of America

Founded in 1969 by and for those who still appreciate the Corvair Automobile.

To join visit: www.corvair.org





JUNE MEETING MINUTES

Minutes: Dayton Corvair Club, 6/23/2020 Monthly Meeting, 6:30 P.M.

Location: The Historical Society of Vandalia Butler Meeting House Shelter Area, 336 East Alkaline Springs Road, Vandalia, OH 45377

Attendees: Shawn Funkhouser, Verle McGillivray, Jennie & Joe Dranschak, Jim Stukenborg, Kevin & Susan Clark, Wes & Penny Bogner, Jim Schmidt, Greg Brush, Greg Hanlin, Duane Baker, Michael Bayman, Aggie Moyer, Bernice Noll and Paul Huelskamp.

Welcome: President Shawn Funkhouser welcomed a great turnout of 17 members. We did not know what to expect for attendance, since we were meeting outside, but the weather cooperated. Shawn provided an update on his dad's, Gary, and the back surgery Gary had on June 22nd (all seems to have gone well). Shawn thanked members for previous Skype meetings and said it was nice to meet in person again.

Secretary: Joe reviewed the May 26 Skype meeting and highlighted some items discussed that we will continue discussion at the June meeting. Paul motioned for acceptance of the minutes, seconded by Verle and approved.

Treasurer: All previous monthly reports are current and up to date. Jennie reported an opening balance of \$2,191.93 with income of \$.10 checking account interest and no expenses leaving a June 23, 2020 balance of \$2,192.03. There was also some discussion of the Dayton Dragons tickets and Greg Hanlin suggested we just wait and see what happens with the season schedule before we make any decision about the tickets. Jennie also reported the CORSA Chapter Report for 2020 is ready to send along with a check for \$35 for the 2020 Chapter dues. Motion to accept the report, ticket suggestion and CORSA payment made by Dwayne, seconded by Jim Schmidt and approved.

Membership: Kevin Clark, Jim Stukenborg and Joe indicated the current membership files, along with member information and email distribution information, are ready to be sent to our new Membership Chair, Paul. As any membership information comes to our Treasurer, Jennie will update her record keeping then pass the documentation she receives on to Paul, so he can maintain the membership files. Paul will provide updates to Kevin Clark and other officers, as needed.

Newsletter: Jim Stukenborg talked about a new Corvair Models book. Shawn mentioned a Youtube Rampside video by Jay Leno and asked if other members have

seen it or knew of it. There were no other newsletter comments.

Activities: Kevin tried a little humor by informing us that "everything is canceled" then we talked about scheduled 2020 activities that we might still try to have. We are planning the 'Vair Affair at Verle's home Saturday, August 15 (more discussion and details at the July 28 Club Meeting). We also have our August Club Meeting at the 'Vair Affair event. Joe will check with D&D to see how they are doing with on-site tours. Shawn is going to see if the Columbus Club will take the 2021 Mid-Ohio Meet so we can host the 2022, along with celebrating our 50-year anniversary.



Old Business: We still have an opening for our Vice President position and will continue to mention this in any email updates from Kevin to the Club and in our newsletter. Kevin passed around an order form for members to indicate how many Club hats they would like so we can submit a Club group order. We will probably get a few extra made.

New Business: We discussed the arrangement we have with Marion's for pizza and our deposit we have with them. Verle will ask for a refund to him of one of the \$100 deposits that he made with his own money; the other \$100 deposit we will leave with Marions for a while longer to see if they will have larger groups by our October Club meeting. Jennie shared that she received a call from the owner of Christys Restaurant, where we have our annual Christmas Dinner Meeting, that they will be doing catering but will not have rentals on site anymore. Jennie will get back with them about their catering business. Joe suggested we could use the Historical Society Meeting House for the dinner and that was approved for Dec 12th, if we need to use it (Society policy does not allow alcohol on site, so we might want to look for another location).

50/50: Verle won \$6 and donated it back to the Club for pizza.

Adjourn: Joe will call the City of Vandalia to see if we can use the Justice Center community meeting room for our July Club meeting and if not we will probably meet at the Historical Society shelter again. Motion to adjourn by Shawn and we did about 7:35PM

VICE-PRESIDENT NEEDED

With the passing of vice-president Steve Kianka the club is in need of someone to step into this role. Someone please raise their hand and volunteer. We had this notice in last month and the position is still open.

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 both educational and entertaining. The education comes from Christopher Smith on the www.autoclassics.com website and the entertainment comes from Jay Leno, with a video he posted on www.youtube.com June 14, 2020. See links below for both websites.

First we get this “Autoclassics” description, from Christopher Smith, of Jay Leno’s 1961 Corvair 95 Rampside.



If you’re reading this, you almost certainly fall into one of two Corvair categories. You either love it for being a truly different, American-designed rear-engine car, or you think it’s a death trap that will either pirouette at random, explode or possibly both. Being Autoclassics, we fall in the former category and we’re grateful for this fresh video from Jay Leno’s Garage, as Leno clearly shares our passion for this interesting and often misunderstood machine from America’s automotive history.

Obviously, this isn’t the typical Corvair one usually sees. In addition to cars, Chevrolet built Corvair vans and pickup trucks like this 1961 Corvair 95 Rampside. Whereas rear-engined Corvairs were unorthodox cars in the 1960s, the same could be said for truck

versions. Among other things, the 145 cubic-inch (2.4-liter) six-cylinder engine was still rear-mounted and still air-cooled, just like in the car.

It developed approximately 80 horsepower (60 kilowatts) and 128 pound-feet (174 Newton-meters) of torque, which sounds pretty weak for a pickup truck. However, the Rampside only weighed around 2,600 pounds, so it wasn’t saddled with excess mass to drag around. It’s not fast, but as Leno portrays in the video, it’s surprisingly peppy.

The engine wasn’t the only reason this was an unorthodox truck for 1960’s America. It featured fully independent suspension front and rear – something most modern trucks still don’t offer. And as the name suggests, there was both a folding tailgate and a folding ramp on the passenger side that literally dropped to the ground for easy loading. Moving things around in the bed, however, wasn’t quite as easy. The rear-mounted engine led designers to create a stepped bed floor – higher in the back to accommodate the engine.

Leno’s example is obviously meticulously restored. According to the video, he actually found it many years ago, selling near his shop for \$600. The restoration is approximately 14 years old, and when his Jay Leno’s Garage website launched in 2015, it was one of the first vehicles to be featured. It never made the transition to his YouTube channel, however, so this is the inaugural clip for the old Corvair.

We’re happy he decided to share this rare machine. There certainly wasn’t anything like it back in the 1960s, nor is there today.

Then we get to spend a little over 33 minutes with Jay Leno, as he shares his 1961 Corvair 95 Rampside video on Youtube. It is part of Leno’s collection and he clearly adores it.

Credits: <https://www.autoclassics.com/news/429545/1961-corvair-rampside-leno-garage/> and America’s Most Radical Pickup Truck - Jay Leno’s Garage (June 14,2020)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OY6X_603MMc



FIELD OF DREAMS

There is a saying if you build it they will come. There is a field in Billings, Montana where literally hundreds of Corvairs came to rest. Every model of Corvairs can be seen there. From early to late, and most versions of FCs are there for sale. At least one wagon and a VW bus are in the lineup. For \$10,000 you get to choose one or as many as you need. If you can't grab them all, just grab a dozen. Find it here on Facebook Marketplace and before you leave, bring a commercial auto hauler and tell your wife you're going shopping.
https://www.facebook.com/marketplace/item/253577015933738

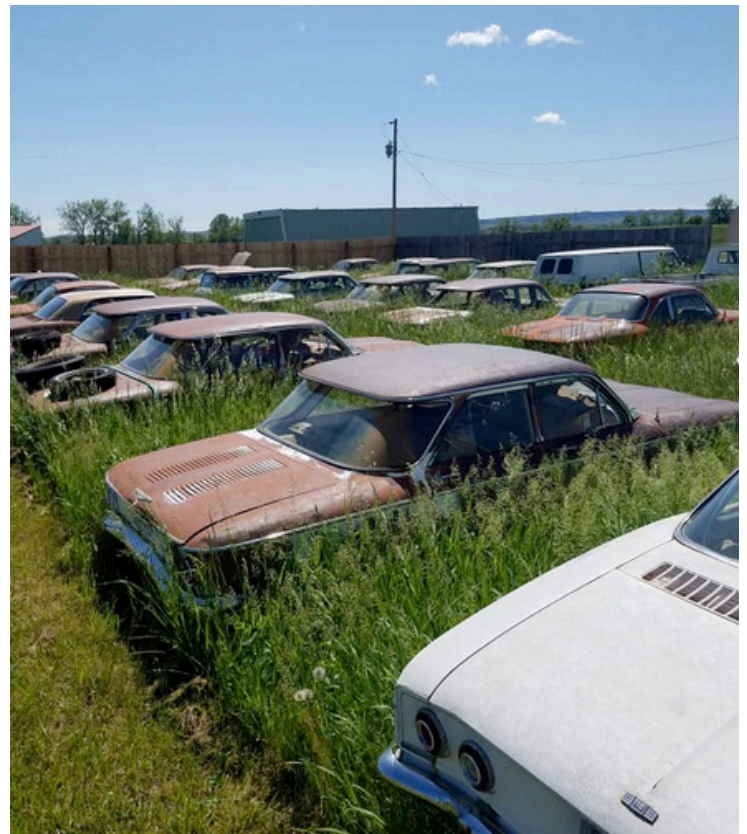


Table with 2 columns: Date and Event Description. Title: CORVAIR CLUB TENTATIVE CALENDAR OF MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES. Rows include dates from TBD to 12/12/20 with various events like train rides, meets, and meetings.



CORVAIR PARTS FOR SALE

Joe,

I talked with you earlier in the day about some Corvair engine parts that I would like to sell. I don't have a complete inventory so I will have to go by memory.

About 6 engine blocks = 1966 and later (164 Cu. in.)

Several sets oh 110 hp heads

3 crankshafts that have been turned and nitrided I think .020 under One crankshaft had been micro polished after nitriding

One OT-10 camshaft from Clarks Corvairs

Four bell housings – I think they are all for manual transmissions

A least on set of refurbished connecting rods, I but not balanced

One set of .040 over cylinders with sealed power forged pistons

I have some other parts, just not sure of what I have. My intention was to modify the Corvair engines for aircraft use.

I knew of several other people who were considering using the Corvair engine so I purchased several core engines and disassembled them.

I hope this information provides a picture of what I have.

I would like to sell them at a fair price by the part or the whole lot.

*Bob Luken
937-602-7418*

CORVAIR SIGHTING

Spotted at a Saturday night cruise-in. This 1964 Monza must belong to Sharon and Gary Williams. The cruise-in is every Saturday from 5pm to dark on the south west corner of Dorothy Lane and Woodman Drive in Kettering. A food truck was there and a Dairy Queen is nearby.



CLUB CAPS AVAILABLE

The Dayton Corvair Club caps are available. 17 caps were pre-ordered and seven extras were added to reach a price break with 24 caps. Kevin will have the caps at the July meeting. If you haven't pre-ordered one, contact Kevin and he will add you on the list. The final pricing will be discussed at the July meeting.

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.

REMOVING CORVAIR TORQUE CONVERTER SEAL

To remove a Corvair torque converter Corvair specialist Steve Goodman uses an awl to make a hole in the seal and then screws a slide hammer screw into the hole. A few light slaps on the hammer will pull out the seal. To seat the new seal he uses a piece of PVC pipe. (Ed note: The seal has an OD of 2 3/8". A 1 3/4" galvanized pipe cap has an OD very similar and works well for seating the seal.)

NOT ALL CORVAIR CAM GEARS ARE THE SAME

Per the posters on Corvair Center the good cam gear is a billet gear from California Corvairs. Others reported early failures with gears marked LS or USA and sold through another source. There were no remarks about cam gears from Clark's.

HAGARTY RANKS CORVAIR TOP FC CHOICE

Hagerty recently published their rankings on a group of 1960s FC trucks. The decade that brought the forward control to market in several different shapes and forms. They may never pass the safety standard we have today. We can only go back and admire them as they were. When it comes to fun, form and function between a Dodge, Volkswagen, Jeep and Ford, nothing beats the ride like the Corvaair. Take a look and read what Hagerty has to say about them. The Corvaair Rampside tops the list. https://www.hagerty.com/media/entertainment/forward-control-trucks-of-the-1960s-ranked/?utm_source=SFMC&utm_medium=email&utm_content=20_May_19_Newsletter_NewDD



Chevrolet Corvaair Rampside

All photos by Mecum



Dodge A100/A108



Volkswagen Type 2 (Transporter)



Jeep Forward Control



Ford Econoline



CLASSIC TOW

How about using your Rampside for transportation when your camper is parked at the campsite and hooked to water and electricity?



CLASSIC PONTOON

While we have your attention on camping, how about taking this UltraVan out on the water? It would be interesting to know how can this UltraVan pontoon boat move and steer across the lake. Could it be powered by a Wayne Corvair engine? To make it easier to get inside, wouldn't it be a good idea to cut a hole in the bottom? You just swim and climb right up into it like a beaver. And you could do some fishing too while staying comfy inside with all the amenity you ever need within your reach.



Corvair
by Chevrolet



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. Bohanan 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.

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

<http://daytoncorvairclub.wix.com/daytoncorvairclub>



Send regular mail to:

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

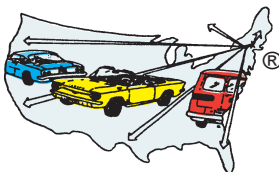
Email articles, pictures, ads to:
daytoncorvairclub@gmail.com

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New 2019-2025 Clark Catalog!

(Order CAT-9 \$8)



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Many improvements with
more coming by June.**

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