



DAYTON Corvair



CHAPTER 454

CHRONICLE

MAY 2023

MAY MEETING

The May meeting of the Dayton Corvair Club will be held at our regular place, the Vandalia Justice Center. The date is Tuesday May 23rd. The time is our regular 6:30 PM. This is a special meeting as Mike Hall, the CORSA president, will be there in person to answer questions about the 2024 CORSA Convention to be held here in Dayton. Note that this is the 4th Tuesday in a five Tuesday month.

JUNE ACTIVITY

The club's June activity is the yearly Mid Ohio Meet. It will again be held at Caesar Creek State Park. The host club for this year is the Cincinnati Corvair Club. They will be celebrating their 50th anniversary.



The site for the activity is Flat Fork Ridge Recreation Center, 3466 North Clarksville Road, Waynesville, OH 45068. Be sure you use Google Maps for directions. Most other apps will send you a mile away.

The picnic begins at 10AM and lunch will be served around noon. Awards and door prize drawing will follow around 2PM. Be sure you bring a covered dish to share and your drinks. Tableware will be provided. Registration is \$10 per individual and \$15 per family. Driving your Corvair is preferred but not required.

DAYTON CONVENTION UPDATE

With the 2023 International Corvair Convention in Wisconsin Dell just five weeks away, work is continuing with a display showcasing Dayton for the 2024 convention. Duane is nearly finished working with his early model dashboard display. The final set-up will have our club banner behind it as a backdrop and a few collages surrounding it showing area attractions. It was suggested we add a keychain with a red ribbon with a text "REMOVE BEFORE FLIGHT". Kevin is looking for a high-res photo with an aerial view of Dayton.

Corsa President Mike Hall will be attending our May 23 club meeting here in Vandalia. A list of questions will be prepared to help with the discussions regarding the 2024 convention.

We have nineteen leaders accepting positions covering more than half of all activities that are part of the convention. We are looking for eleven more leaders to step up and take charge of activities that are still open. All leaders were given a guide created by Corsa and they will be looking for volunteers to help them fulfill their tasks.

The Cincinnati club will be handling the Car Display and decided it will be a People's Choice format instead of Judging for awards.

There is progress on the Autocross with the SCCA agreeing to set-up and time the event. We have established contact and are working to get permission to use UD Welcome Stadium arena north parking lot for the autocross.

As Acting Chairman, Kevin is thanking those accepting to be leaders and is continuing asking everyone else to help fill in where they are needed.



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".



MARCH MEETING MINUTES

Our trip to the D & D Classic on April 22, 2023 was an awesome one! We saw several beautiful and rare cars. Heard many stories of how the cars came to the D & D shop. A few cars that need remodeling were waiting for the expertise of the workers to fabricate parts. One of the many buildings had two planes being worked on and we're shaping up nicely. What an amazing shop! Looking forward to seeing the progress on these cars again in the future.



We then headed to lunch at Buffalo Jacks. Shawn welcomed us all for attending, VP Verle didn't have any report and no treasurer or membership report were given. The food arrived so soon we pretty much started discussing the 2024 Convention. Kevin went over each activity and listed their tasks and members present were accepting to be leaders in each activity. Each new leaders were given a guideline to follow which should help them stay on track. The meeting went well while Kevin waited on his food which never came until we were almost finished with the meeting. Really good and unique food choices and we had a successful meeting regarding the 2024 convention. Gary Funkhouser won the 50/50 and turned the money back to the club.

Darcy Baker
Secretary

MUSEUM TOUR PLANNED

Mark your calendar. We have a tour planned for July 22. John Prikkel, the owner of the Dayton Auto and Memorabilia Museum, will welcome us for the club tour.

John also owns a bright yellow 1964 Monza convertible. He recently took it out for a spin after it sat for several years and said it ran great with no need for a tune up.

John also has 31 cars including 4 Cords, 8 Studebakers, 3 Rolls Royces, and cars made by Kaiser, Hudson, Packard, Willys, Chevrolet, Ford, Cadillac, LaSalle, and others. His oldest car is an 1886 Benz.

The address is 100 Holiday Drive, Englewood, Ohio 45322. Be there at 10AM.

His website is Dayton Auto and Memorabilia Museum.

Shawn suggested we might want to meet for lunch afterwards. We can talk about this in our May or June meeting.

DAYTON DRAGONS GAME

Fourteen members attended the Dayton Dragons game. The weather had dried but the game was delayed for a half hour to prepare the field. We sat almost all the way up front by first base. Everyone seems to enjoy the evening and it was a bit cool temperature wise. The Dragons lost to a no-hitter game.

2023 CORVAIR CONVENTION

The 2023 International Corvair Convention is in Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin. The Chula Vista is the host hotel with a grand water park and is located right on the Wisconsin River. Three Corvair clubs, Capital City Corvair Club, North East Wisconsin Corvair Club, and Milwaukee Corvair Club, had worked together to welcome members and their Corvairs to experience Wisconsin has to offer. Duane and Darcy Baker, Kevin and Susan Clark, and Greg and Allison Hanlin will be attending.



HOMECOMING

The Detroit Area Corvair Club puts on a yearly event that is so fun you should try going there sometime. Over 100 Corvairs on average show up. They have free food and booze every day. Some of your club members always look forward to this year after year. From July 13-16, there will be swap meet, museum tours, cruise night, road rally, valve cover races, outdoor movie night, the list goes on. To sum it up, it's party, party, party. It's in Ann Arbor, MI. Google Detroit Area Corvair Club and you will find more information and registration.



D & D TOUR

As always, this is a fun event. Every year they have new cars that they are working on. Our tour guide was the familiar Mike Ilsen. D & D has a total of 7 buildings used for restoration and storage. Currently they have 60 cars in their care. Mike says that 70% are box cars. That means the car comes to them in boxes.



Mike Ilsen. D & D has a total of 7 buildings used for restoration and storage. Currently they have 60 cars in their care. Mike says that 70% are box cars. That means the car comes to them in boxes.

The tour started off in the building where they do both car work and engine rebuilding. Their special weaving machine can duplicate a car's wiring appearance. Cars included a Jag, a 1933 Rolls, Nash Statesman, 1953



2022



2023

Packard, 1933 Ford coupe, a hemi engined Dodge Cornet, and a number of engines for rebuilding. They have a test stand to test them when rebuilt. Mike said that the test stand saved them from a blown engine when they detected the lack of oil flow due to a part problem on one of their rebuilds.

The next building housed a number of cars and their paint booth. A 1968 GTO was in the paint booth. Other cars in this building included 1953 Studebaker V8, 1967 Chevy truck, 1969 XKE Jag, a 1940 Lincoln Continental that



was a gift from Ford to Mickey Rooney. One unique feature of this car is that the body is welded directly to the frame of the car at the factory, 1935 Auburn convertible, 1938 Styre 220 made in Austria. The Styre has been there for a number of years, as has a 1928

Isoto Fraschini.

The next building is the one where most of the body work is done. Cars in this building included a 1932 Boatail Auburn, 1937 Auburn, 1969 Camaro pace car, 1979 Pontiac 10th Anniversary Trans Am, 1934 Ford coupe, V8 Ford powered Sunbeam Tiger, and a few others.



The last building contains a large level metal floor plate that is part of computerized measuring system, their metal forming equipment, plus some cars and a couple of airplanes. Cars here included a 1934 Cadillac 4 door convertible and a Ford street rod. The airplanes they

were working last year were still there and show some progress. One of the planes is a Lockheed Altair and the other a 1930's amphibian.



Through the tour Mike pointed out that a number of parts have to be custom made as they are no longer available. Some of these required real ingenuity to recreate parts from some off the shelf item. Looking over the list of cars one can see that all are not high dollar classics. A number of cars are there because of their sentimental value.



On May 20 D & D is having their 19th annual car show for the benefit of the Fisher House Foundation. Registration donation is \$20. Show is from 10AM-2PM. 2300 Mote Rd. Covington, Ohio.



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.

16D SATURDAY, JULY 25, 1992 7-25-92 DAYTON DAILY NEWS

Autos

Even Ralph Nader couldn't kill the Corvair

By Sandy Amann John
COX NEWS SERVICE

ATLANTA — Chevrolet pulled the plug on the Corvair in 1969, but the auto giant didn't stop the little car from winning fans.

Even consumer crusader Ralph Nader, who lambasted the auto in his book, *Unsafe at Any Speed*, couldn't kill some people's devotion to the car.

Today the Corvair Society of America (CORSA) has the third-largest membership among nameplate car clubs, trailing only Corvette and Mustang. Members started having conventions shortly after the Corvair became absent from the new-car showrooms, and they'll have their 22nd annual meeting next week.

Between 1,000 and 1,500 Corvair enthusiasts — and between 200 and 300 Corvairs — will converge on Atlanta for the international convention July 28 through Aug. 1.

"It'll be quite a showing," said Ed Mackey, convention chairman. "People on that side of town will think they went back to the '60s."

Although the Corvair is a gas-sipping relic of the Kennedy and Johnson eras, it never really fit in to that decade, Mackey says. "The public just wasn't ready for it."

The Corvair really was ahead of its time. Automotive writer Bill Vance calls it "the most unusual car and arguably the most technically interesting one to come out of Detroit in the 1960s." Among the features: an aluminum, air-cooled, six-cylinder engine in the rear of the car, unit construction and some turbocharged models.

Introduced in the 1960 model year, it was first an economy car — Vance calls it GM's attempt to prove it could build a better Beetle.

A major redesign came in 1965, including a significantly improved rear suspension. But the improvement came too late. That same year, consumer advocate Ralph Nader published his book that said the Corvair's swing-axle suspension (used in the 1960-'64 models) caused the rear wheels to "tuck under" during cornering, causing the car to flip over.

Corvair enthusiasts are quick to point out the car was later vindicated — studies by the U.S. Department of Transportation and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration found no abnormal potential for rollover, and the car was officially declared safe.

DAYTON DAILY NEWS

50 Corvairs rolled in to Dayton in this shipment in 1967

Corvair

Thirty years after production halt, notorious Chevy is still enjoyed

By GREG HANLIN
For Wheels

Corvairs went on sale in October 1959 and were produced until May 1969, with a total of nearly 1.8 million units produced.

They are divided into two major body-style categories: 1960-1964 models (called "early models") and 1965-1969 models (called "late models"). Also, station wagons (1961-1962), vans (1961-1965) and pickup trucks (1961-1964) were manufactured.

All Corvair models had a 6-cylinder, air-cooled engine located in the rear of the vehicle. The 1960 engines displaced 140 cubic-inches and were rated at 80 horsepower.

Displacement and horsepower grew as production continued. All 1964-1969 engines displaced 164 cubic-inches

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Greg Hanlin's 1964 Monza

Greg Hanlin's 1966 Corsa

Corvair

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High-performance options included the use of four single-barrel carburetors, raising the output rating to 140 horsepower, or an exhaust-driven turbocharger that was good for 180 horsepower.

Corvairs were very popular for autocrossing, racing and hillclimbing. Three- and 4-speed manual transmissions were available, as was a version of Chevrolet's powerglide 2-speed automatic.

Many people think that Ralph Nader's book, "Unsafe at Any Speed," which was published in the fall of 1965, caused the demise of Corvair production. However, six months before his book was published, Chevrolet already had decided to do no more development on the Corvair platform.

An April 1965 Chevrolet internal memo stated that only required safety and emission changes would be made.

The fact is that the Ford Mustang, which had been introduced just a year before, was soundly trouncing Chevrolet in the sales race. Chevrolet decided to put its money on the Camaro, due in 1967,

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Above; a newspaper clipping from the Dayton Daily News dated July 25, 1992. It mentioned Corsa is the third largest membership among car clubs trailing behind Corvette and Mustang clubs. Corsa would be celebrating their 22nd annual convention the following month in Atlanta GA.

Left; Dated May 15, 1999, a short article on the Corvair and club member Greg Hanlin's two Corvairs spread through three pages in the DDN Wheels section. Thanks Greg for your wide coverage.

Corvair

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to include Williamsburg, Va., Lake Placid, N.Y., and St. Louis.

1966 Corsa

The white convertible is a 1966 Corsa, which I purchased in May 1998 from the original owner's family in Beavercreek. It was purchased new in New Carlisle and been a local car its entire life. Luckily, it had been garaged most of its life, as well.

I have just completed the restoration on it, including repainting, all new exterior trim and chrome, a complete mechanical rebuild and some interior trim.

The Corsa convertible was the top-of-the-line Corvair for 1966. The car features the 140 horsepower engine with the four single-barrel carburetors and a 4-speed transmission. The only other options ordered on this car were a rear antenna and power top.

Other CORSA conventions I've driven this car



THE REVOLUTIONARY
Corvair
BY CHEVROLET

MAY NEWS

This interesting contraption was brought to our attention. Found on Facebook Marketplace is this 1983 Honda Corvair custom chopper. Look up Ted Vernon's South Beach Classics. The dealership located in Lake Wales, FL has over 300 vehicles with a wide selection of classic cars for sale. For \$8,500 this early model three-wheeler with an automatic transmission can be yours. It doesn't come with the other front half though. You might want to add wheelie bars to keep the front end down. Also found on their website is a 1961 4-door Corvair. The website is; www.TedVernon.com. Many thanks to Sharon Williams for this neat find.



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.

WHEEL SWAPPING TIPS

Thicker aluminum wheels need longer studs. For late models, 7/16-20 Corvette studs will work and are longer than Corvair. Stock Corvair do not have enough thread engagement to be safe for aluminum wheels. Be sure the stud is fully seated after swapping.

Check the angle of the holes in the wheel. The nut should have the same angle. Well known Corvair person, Seth Emerson, says most new wheels have a 60 degree face.

Do not use the metric nuts that come on a 1980's Camaros with the 7/16-20 studs. They are close enough that the nuts will screw on but it is a sloppy fit and the tread contact is poor.

Summit Racing has a good selection of studs.

HEATER HOSE INSTALLATION

American Mel on Corvair Center says if your engine is out and you want to install new heater hoses, mount them to the fan box first. Note that Clark's sells one size and they may need trimming for a good fit.



CORVAIR CLUB TENTATIVE CALENDAR OF MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| May | |
| 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 |
| 07.22.23 | Dayton Auto and Memorabilia Museum Tour - 10AM - 100 Holiday Drive, Englewood |
| 07.25.23 | Club meeting in Vandalia at JC - 6:30PM |
| August | |
| 08.____.23 | Road Rally / Poker Run |
| 08.19.23 | Cars & Coffee (location TBD) |
| 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 |
| 10.24.23 | 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. |
| May 27 | Dayton Cars & Coffee Austin Landing in Springboro. 8am - 11am. |
| Jul 13-16 | DACC Homecoming Annual Corvair show in Ann Arbor, MI - See pg 2 for details. |
| Aug 26 | Bob Pool Orphan Car Show Young's Jersey Dairy in Yellow Springs. Pontiac is the Featured Car this year. Registration 10-noon. \$5/car. |
| Aug 27 | 16th Annual Car Show at Culp Lake 1830 E Home Rd. Springfield. 9am-3:30pm. |



MID OHIO MEET
CINCINNATI - DAYTON - COLUMBUS
1973-2023

**CORVAIR
CLUB OF
CINCINNATI**

JUNE 17, 2023
CAESAR CREEK STATE PARK

This years picnic is hosted by the Corvair Club Of Cincinnati.

It will be at the same place as last year.

Flat Fork Ridge Recreation Center at Caesar Creek State Park.

3466 North Clarksville Rd. Waynesville, OH 45068

Located between the dam and spillway.

Use GOOGLE MAPS for directions.

Most all other apps will send you a mile away.

Begins at 10am. Lunch around noon.

Awards and door prize drawings around 2pm

Registration is \$10 per individual/ \$15 per family

Don't forget to bring a covered dish to share and your drinks.

Tableware will be provided.

Driving your Corvair is preferred but not required.



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

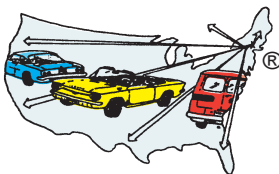
**Kevin Clark
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New 2019-2025 Clark Catalog!

(Order CAT-9 \$8)



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

Clark's Corvair Parts®

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GEM CITY CORVAIR REPAIR

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