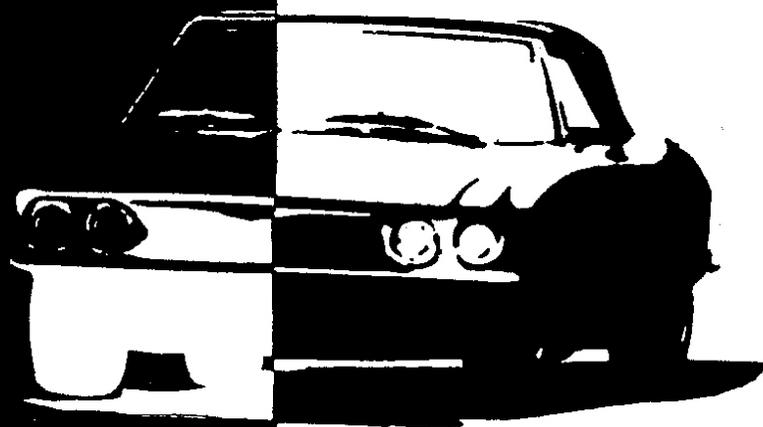


**NEGATIVE
CAMBER**



corvair club
of cincinnati

CORVAIR CLUB OF CINCINNATI 2012 OFFICERS

President:	Joe VonDerHaar	(937) 392-3101
Vice President:	Spencer Duffey	(513) 726-5100
Secretary:	Ralph Gubser	(513) 741-8247
Treasurer:	Mike Demeter	(513) 737-7981

Services and Advisors

Club Store:	Brian Heller	(513) 931-9503
Club Library:	Ralph Gubser	(513) 741-8247

Meetings

Monthly meetings of the Corvaire Club of Cincinnati, unless otherwise specified in this Newsletter, are held on the second Friday of each month starting at 8:00 PM. Currently, the meeting place is the Mount Healthy Community Center near the pool.

Newsletter

The *Negative Camber* is the monthly newsletter of the Corvaire Club of Cincinnati and is received free by all members. Ads and items for inclusion should be sent to the Editors:

Doug & Cindy Simon
678 East Rahn Road
Dayton, Ohio 45429
(937) 433-6725
corvairdoug@aol.com

Deadline for material to be included in the Newsletter is the third Monday of each month for publication in the following month's Newsletter.

CLUB WEBSITE: <http://myplace.frontier.com/~schwetdd/>

The Prez Sez . . .

April 2012

The fieldtrip to EnterTRAINment Junction is now behind us. Sixteen made it for the outing, allowing us to get the group rate of \$9 per person. Wes was the coordinator on this trip. Everyone had a good time, and the place was very interesting. There is so much to see and take in, you only touch the surface in the few hours you are there. You could go back and spend several more hours to see all the details. Thanks Wes – great idea – good job!

There was an extra bonus to the trip. The model railroad club, Cincinnati Cinder Sniffers, was there with a made-from-scratch steam powered boat and several other steam powered engine displays. One gentleman had a working scale model of an Allegheny class steam locomotive originally made by the Lima Locomotive Works in Lima, Ohio. He had over 12,000 man hours in it; he made every part – WOW!

The next function is the Corvair Performance Workshop in Indianapolis, March 23rd and 24th. Anthony will have his LM project on hand. Our club normally has a strong turnout. Try to make it; it is a great and informative time.

We plan to have a pizza party at our April meeting. It is becoming a tradition to have one after our annual swap meet. Please come and enjoy.

Corvairs are in print again. I just received the May issue of Classic Motorsports (I get way too many car magazines – O wait, no I don't), and I found a Corvair article in it called Corvair Underdog. Looks like it may be a multi-part project series. Making an America Porsche fighter.

I continue to be amazed at how much press our little car is getting over 40 years from end of production. They are indeed great cars. Never mind the stupid Top Gear episode that just aired lately.

See you at the next meeting . . . Vairs Rule!



Just-A-Minute

March 9, 2012

Meeting called to order by Joe @ 8:08 p.m. There were 15 members and guests in attendance.

Minutes of the February meeting were approved by Don Berding and seconded by Dave Schwettman.

Mike had forwarded the treasurer's report in his absence. The swap meet was a great success, generating nearly \$1,300 profit. The new Club bank balance is \$4,526.26.

The Corvair Performance Workshop is slated for March 23 and 24. Several members have expressed interest in attending.

Greg Bodenbun has asked for volunteers to participate in the Leprechaun Rally on March 25. It was decided that the Club would also make a cash donation to help support Greg's efforts.

Details concerning the Club outing to EnterTRAINment Junction on March 11 were finalized.

The Club welcomed George Nyktas and his friend Mary (sorry, didn't catch the last name) to their first meeting. Welcome!

Wes Greiwe's Vair may be back on the road soon. Wes is planning on having the engine reunited with the car in the very near future.

The Mid-Ohio Meet, hosted by the Dayton Corvair Club, will be held at Caesar's Creek on Sunday, June 24.

On a sadder note, the Club's Santa mascot is no more. It seems he has been reclaimed by a previous owner. The search for a new mascot is underway.

It was decided that the Club will provide pizza at the April meeting. Be there!

Meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ralph Gubser, Secretary

Editor's Corner

NEW Club Website: <http://myplace.frontier.com/~schwetdd/>

DUES ARE DUE

Please make checks payable to:

Corvair Club of Cincinnati
c/o Mike Demeter
2440 Brenda Drive
Hamilton, OH 45013

\$10.00 for CORSA Members
\$15.00 for CORSA NonMembers

Call Mike if you have any questions, 513-737-7981.

Happy Birthday & Happy Anniversary to All Celebrating During the Months of April & May!

Hello fellow Corvair Club of Cincinnati members. My name is Greg, and I am one of the newer members of the Club. Below is a link to our group's new Yahoo Group. This Yahoo Group functions like a mailing list; it will allow 2-way communication between members. If you sign up and feel you are receiving too many emails, you can edit your settings to only receive a daily digest if you choose. You can also select no email and you will have to visit the site to check on activity. When you receive an email from the group and want to reply, you can simply reply to the email and it will get out to the whole group. Also, you do not need to set up a Yahoo email to use this group; you can use your existing email. I would highly recommend you use your normal email that you check frequently and let the group send you email, otherwise you may miss out on what is being discussed on here.

<http://autos.groups.yahoo.com/group/corvaircincy/>

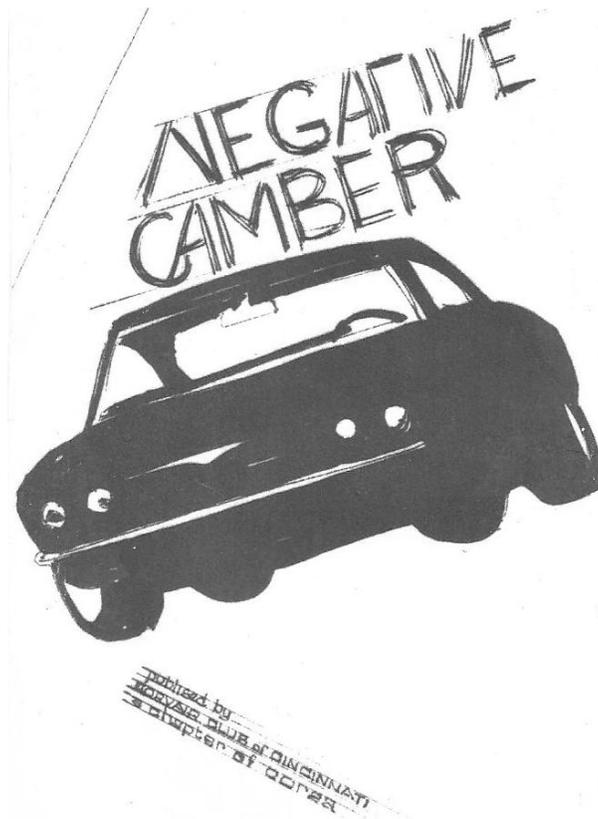
~~F~~Vair Trade

WANTED: Working Corvair spare tire lock and key. Ralph Gubser, 513-741-8247 or rgubser@zoomtown.com.

Carlton Smith, President of the Circle City Corvair Club, is interested in 14 x 6 steel wheels with 4.5 offset; his number is 317-697-0318.

Pair of balanced late-model half-shafts with new u-joints; rebuilt alternator; pair of modified cylinder heads with Holley 5210 carbs; parts for exhaust header system. Gary Pierce 513-497-5069.

A little bit of nostalgia . . . we found this in some of the old Camber artwork and wanted to share. This was the cover prior to our current Camber cover.



ARE ALL THE CAR GUYS GOING GRAY?

As I grow older and seem to spend more time reflecting and noticing things, I wonder why all the car guys I see have gray hair.

Is it the toll the car hobby casts upon you? Is it because most folks don't get involved until their kids are raised and are nearing or in retirement? Is it because the marks we enjoy are not of interest to the young? Have the changes in the economy and the loss of so many well-paying jobs left the new generation without sufficient funds to have such a hobby? Has the interest in cars been replaced by something? Is the hobby dying out? These are all interesting questions and possibly all could be playing a part in the evolution of our beloved car hobby.

The basis for my thinking is what I see in club newsletters, magazines and car events I either subscribe to or attend; also, the observations and discussions I have with my children and their friends. For the most part, the car guys of today are gray!

But why is this? In my life so far I have observed my father and older friends heavily involved with cars. They had them, worked on them, raced them, cruised our town and talked about them all the time. It was exciting when the new car models came out and you went to the dealership with dad to check them out. My father worked for Fisher Body, and car talk was a daily occurrence.

My buddies and I were into cars as soon as we could drive. On weekends we cruised the town and worked on our cars, discussing what kind of car we wanted in the worst way, until well after midnight. I would like to mention that while doing this, we were not drunk, high, stealing or involved in any wrongdoing. We were occupied by a hobby, and our parents could rest easy (at least they should have).

So what is going on today? Where are all the young people? Every club newsletter I get has a bunch of guys that look like me standing around cars and eating pizza. In the magazines, the "owners view" sections have baby boomers in them. At the swap meets guys have those cane seats to rest on. It sure looks like we are getting old.

So, with that, let's analyze things for a minute and try and answer some of the questions I have posed.

Does the toll and stress of the car hobby cause you to go gray? No. Once you get past the part where you can park your prized possession in a parking lot and/or you don't have a heart attack if you get caught in the rain, there is not much stress. Actually, a hobby like this relieves stress, giving you an outlet from work and family responsibilities. If you are gray, that means you have been lucky enough to have been in the hobby for a long time.

Do people have to wait until the kids are raised or be in retirement? Depends. There are for sure people that don't have the time and disposable income to get into the hobby until later in life. Many guys I know really kicked it up a notch (or two) after the college bills were over and they had the whole week to play with cars. With anything in life, if you want it bad enough, you will find a way. You don't need a stable of cars or one from a high dollar auction house. There are many inexpensive classic cars to get into the hobby with. Some guys use them as a dual purpose daily driver and hobby car (you need transportation anyway – right?). Even if you can't afford a car, you can be involved in clubs, help other guys and attend shows. The guys I know that I would have categorized as “car guys” have been in the hobby in some way since they were 16 years old (some before that) and had careers and raised families. They found a way. The golfer crowd seems to find a way for their hobby.

Are the cars you are interested in different than the ones of today's young people? Yes & No. This is a mixed bag of nuts question. When I was growing up, I liked cars of the 50's, 60's and 70's. I did not really like the old model T's and cars of the 30's & 40's. I was a muscle car generation guy. Mustangs, Camaros, Cudas and Corvettes were the main focus. As I aged, my scope of interest, both in years and makes, expanded. Today, anything from 1903 to today is of interest. Unfortunately (but not really abnormal) there are certain types of newer cars I can't get motivated about. Some of these are of interest to the younger generation. I do really like the rat rod stuff, and I see a whole new generation of young folks into them. So I do think there is some generation gap effect going on that keeps the young folks from being in the same clubs as the older guys. The clubs of today were started by young guys with an interest in a certain model of car. The same guys are still going strong in that club. There are other newer clubs that the young guys have started. I'm sure the guys in the Model T club in 1975 were wondering where the kids were also.

Is the economy and job market affecting things? Yes. The economy affects everything. A hobby by definition is an extravagance for the most part. Surviving life by putting food on the table, a roof over your head and raising the kids is job one. When times get hard, the hobbies are gone. The thing that concerns me most about the car hobby, and any hobby for that matter, is in the future; there appears to be a drastic shift in the types of jobs and the overall financial health of the country. We, as a nation, were very fortunate to ride a great economic wave after World War II. It gave us the lifestyle we are all used too, and for the most part, helped build the car industry and associated hobby that we all enjoy. As I grew up, the guys into cars worked at GM, Ford, Chrysler, steel mills, paper mills, machine tool builders, utilities, phone companies and others supporting manufacturing concerns. If you drive through cities today, many of these businesses and factories are gone and so are the jobs. Add the fact that the country is in major debt, everything is going up (fuel, utilities, taxes, healthcare, etc.), our government is way oversized and lost in the weeds, puts us in a world of hurt for the future. I apologize for bringing you down with this one, but it is a major concern of mine. This one could be a game changer if it does not get fixed.

Has something replaced the car hobby? Maybe. If you think about it, at one time the automobile was the great new thing. Henry Ford and others really did change the world by making the automobile viable and pulling us out of the horse and buggy age. The automobile was a player in the industrial revolution and helped build the economy that we could then enjoy its benefits. Think of our current world. Without the automobile there would not be the suburbia we all live in. It changed the face of the country and world as we know it. There is a new player since then, and it is the computer. It also has changed our world. It is electronic transportation. Today we have the computer and all of its video games to keep us occupied. You can see and learn so much on the computer and never leave your kitchen. You don't need to take Sunday drives to go see things, just Google it. I think the computer has had a great impact on where people, both young and old, spend their time. The thing we forget is that there is nothing like living life outdoors and actually experiencing things in person. The computer impacts more than just the car hobby.

Is the car hobby dying out? I don't think so. At the present time, the car hobby is strong and well. Yes, you can say the prices of cars are soft at present as a result of the economy, but otherwise all is well. There are more businesses than ever before supporting the hobby. There are TV

shows dedicated to it. I currently believe if the car hobby dies out, there will be many other things dying or dead at the same time.

I was at the Cavalcade of Customs the other day. There was a wide range of types of cars there. There were several vendors on hand with every type of tool or product you could dream of to help you out. I scanned the audience from a level above the show floor. To my surprise, among all the gray-haired car guys there was a sea of brown, blonde and red.

The car hobby will continue for at least the next generation.

Submitted by Joe VonDerHaar



Upcoming Events

April 13, 2012

8:00 PM: Monthly CCC Meeting, Mt. Healthy Community Center

April 20, 2012

North Texas Corvair Association Heart of Texas Roundup, Salado, TX

April 20, 2012

Corvair Atlanta, Heart of Georgia Corvairs, Queen City Corvair Club
Springfest, Helen, GA

April 21, 2012

Queen City Corvair Club Spring Autofair, Charlotte, NC

April 27, 2012

Classic Corvairs of River City Spring Fling Cash-In, Sacramento, CA

Contact: 530-903-0190 or dsdls@att.net

May 4, 2012

North Cascades Corvairs Northwest Econorun, La Conner, WA

Contact: 360-466-2266 or fredngale@wavecable.com

May 6, 2012

Central Pennsylvania Corvair Club Corvair Ranch Open House,
Gettysburg, PA

May 11, 2012

8:00 PM: Monthly CCC Meeting, Mt. Healthy Community Center

May 18, 2012

Virginia Corvair Club Virginia Vair Fair, Lexington, VA

June 8, 2012

8:00 PM: Monthly CCC Meeting, Mt. Healthy Community Center

June 8, 2012

Mad Anthony Corvair Club Car Show & Swap, Fort Wayne, IN

June 23, 2012

Corvairs at Volo Auto Museum, Volo, IL

Contact Andy Rominiecki, 847-838-5549 or aromini@comcast.net

June 24, 2012

Mid-Ohio Meet, hosted by the Dayton Corvair Club, Caesar's Creek

July 13, 2012

8:00 PM: Monthly CCC Meeting, Mt. Healthy Community Center

July 24, 2012

Northeast Corvair Council CORSA International Convention,
Sturbridge, MA

August 10, 2012

8:00 PM: Monthly CCC Meeting, Mt. Healthy Community Center

August 11, 2012

Flag City BalloonFest Classic Car Show, Findlay, OH

Contact Kim Wilhelm, 419-427-8064 or kimwilhelm@thecourier.com

August 23, 2012

Detroit Area Corvair Club Corvair Homecoming, Plymouth, MI

Contact Pete Cimbala, 810-621-9866 or 810-241-8593

September 14, 2012

8:00 PM: Monthly CCC Meeting, Mt. Healthy Community Center

October 12, 2012

8:00 PM: Monthly CCC Meeting, Mt. Healthy Community Center

November 9, 2012

8:00 PM: Monthly CCC Meeting, Mt. Healthy Community Center

Late July 2013

Western Michigan Corvair Club CORSA International Convention,
Kalamazoo, MI



Enter TRAINment Junction



Missing from photo: Prez Joe,
Lemmermans & Schwettmans

Taillights



BY BOB STEVENS ■ CHEVROLET'S WILLOW RUN ASSEMBLY PLANT WAS A MODERN MARVEL OF HIGH-TECH PRODUCTION PROCESSES WHEN IT OPENED IN 1959. YET IT WAS UNLIKE ANY OTHER AUTOMOTIVE PRODUCTION PLANT IN THE U.S., A UNIQUE FACILITY DESIGNED AND BUILT EXPRESSLY TO BUILD CHEVROLET'S UNIQUE LITTLE COMPACT CAR, THE REAR-ENGINE, AIR-COOLED, REAR-DRIVE CORVAIR INTRODUCED FOR THE 1960 MODEL YEAR.

Rather than build the car in the normal fashion with the chassis being completed and then the body lowered onto the chassis, with the Corvair, the unitized body arrived from a body plant next door and was then sent down the assembly line on an overhead conveyor system while the major components were installed in the frame-less car from underneath.

Here, two technicians are ready to install the front axle with suspension (left), while a three-man crew (right) prepares to insert the rear axle and suspension, plus lift the powertrain into the "trunk," which in this case, of course, was the engine compartment. The six-cylinder engine was horizontally opposed and paired

with a transaxle featuring a three- or four-speed manual transmission or an automatic.

In building the innovative little compact, the Willow Run Plant in Ypsilanti, Michigan, featured 87 work stations and 213 inspection points along its 3,528-foot-long assembly line. The new 446,000-square-foot facility included 347,000 square feet of plant space. While the Willow Run plant built only Corvairs, the novel new Chevy compact was also made at two other assembly plants in Kansas City, Missouri, and Oakland, California. (Chevrolet Photo, from the Bob Stevens Collection) ■

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2440 Brenda Drive
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_____ CORSA Members - \$10.00 Annual Dues Enclosed

_____ CORSA NonMembers - \$15.00 Annual Dues Enclosed

Corvair(s) Owned:

Name: _____

Address: _____

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Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Members of CCC are not required to secure and maintain membership in CORSA (Corvair Society of America) for insurance at Club events. Applications for CORSA may be obtained from any Board member. Dues are \$45.00 per year and made payable directly to CORSA. For more details, see <http://www.corvair.org>.

**Corvair Club of Cincinnati
2440 Brenda Drive
Hamilton, OH 45013**

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