

Prairie Capital Corvair Association

**P.O. Box 954
Springfield, Illinois 62705**

The Flat Six

January 2022

2021 Officers

President -Chris Hall	(217) 691-6529	Vice-President Tim Mahler	(217) 793-3824
Secretary-vacant	(Call Tim)	Treasurer-Glen Rittenhouse	(309) 472-3882
Membership-Chris Hall	(217) 691-6529	Historian/Inventory	
FlatSix Editor Tim Mahler	(217) 793-3824	Email	PrairieCapital@corvair.org

Board of Directors

Mike Hall (2023)	(217) 494-7105	Sandy Myers (2022)	(217) 624-4400
Jim Allen (2022)	(309) 361-5351	Larry Jahn (2022)	(217) 820-8895

From the Prez

Greetings All!

As I sit here and bring you into the New Year! I'm reflecting on today, Christmas Day! Both of my daughters are taking a nap right now and so is my Wife! No better time to write up the New Years edition! I'd like to thank everyone for making their way to the Christmas party this year! I'd like to thank everyone for your donation to Toys for Tots! Due to the storms the night before we were without power through Saturday afternoon. I was unable to gather my toys to donate due to my work loaning me a generator until power was restored. Luckily, I was able to make it to Menards on the Northeast side of Springfield to purchase toys and put in the donation box! When we talk of Christmas I'm curious what is your favorite Christmas carol? What's your go-to Christmas movie? For those present at the Christmas party we learned that the C.P.F. Corvair Museum will most likely be closing in the middle of January. We were also told there will probably be a packing party to possibly put Museum items in storage temporarily until we are able to locate a permanent site on Route 66! Though this is sad to happen in the coming year I'm still looking forward to 2022! I'm really hoping to get to the Convention in Peachtree City, Georgia! We also hope to have a lot of great events planned! Please remember to let us know about your local car shows! I'd like to make sure we get a calendar full of car shows to attend! On this note I'll leave you with wishing you all & your Corvairs a Happy New Year!! Wishing you all the best of health! Think Spring



A greenbrier model by NEO. Gary Swiatory collection, at least the photos. CPF facebook.

Chris Hall, PCCA President.

Calendar of Events - 2021

PCCA Home Page may be found at <http://www.corvair.org/chapters/chapter627>

Directions to the CPF Corvair Museum near Glenarm Illinois. Take exit 88 from I-55, from either direction, head west – turn right if you are traveling south on I-55, left if traveling north. Follow the road as it curves to the left, south. Go straight at the stop light (turning right takes you to Chatham). The Museum is 1.3 miles from the stop light on the right hand side – just past the Double J campgrounds.



Events - 2021 / 2022

January 8, 2022 PCCA Board Meeting at the Museum 1:00-2:00 pm.

LOCATION: CPF Corvair Museum (exit 88 off I-55)

Main Topics: New Officers installation, Programs for 2022. May become a “Zoom” meeting

January 8, 2022 PCCA Meeting at the Museum 2:00-4:00 pm.

LOCATION: CPF Corvair Museum (exit 88 off I-55)

January is the anniversary month for PCCA – Happy 45th Birthday PCCA!!

Program: History of PCCA in Pictures

February 12, 2022 PCCA Meeting 2:00-4:00 pm.

LOCATION: TBD

March 12, 2022 PCCA Meeting 2:00-4:00 pm.

LOCATION: TBD

April 9, 2022 PCCA Meeting 2:00-4:00 pm.

LOCATION: TBD

May 14, 2022 PCCA Meeting 2:00-4:00 pm.

LOCATION: TBD



CORVAIR "95" RAMPSIDE PICKUP

May 20-21, 2022 PCCA Hosts the CPF Corvair Museum Event

These are tentative dates that I expect will be finalized soon.

Friday - welcome party, Saturday - Road Tour?, Corvair Show

And Dinner at the Museum. (Well, maybe we'll do lunch?) details to follow

June 11, 2022 PCCA Meeting 2:00-4:00 pm.

LOCATION: TBD

July 9, 2022 PCCA Meeting 2:00-4:00 pm.

LOCATION: TBD

July 12-16, 2022 CORSA Convention in Peachtree City.

Host hotel is the Peachtree City Crowne Plaza.

Convention rates are \$119 plus taxes good from July 10 to July 17. Is a web link or call the hotel 800/227-6963 group code is TU5. The host hotel is now accepting reservations.



For more Corvair Events Check the calendar on the CORSA Web site: www.corvair.org

PCCA December Christmas Get-Together

Saturday, December 11, 2021 was full of good news, and not so good news. The day was very blustery - just darn windy. However, the sun was out and the temperatures were close to average for mid-December.

The bad news for Illinois, Kentucky and elsewhere was the cold front, low pressure system that was causing those strong winds for those traveling to the get-together also brought dangerous tornadoes overnight. The strongest reportedly started in Arkansas, traveled through Missouri and Tennessee before destroying large parts of Kentucky. It traveled over 125 miles and was 3/4 miles wide at points during this path. It flattened a candle factory in Mayfield, KY, at least 6 people perished. Further north in Edwardsville, Illinois, where some of PCCA's members reside - another tornado flatten half of a Amazon distribution center, at least 6 died there. Other strong tornadoes struck elsewhere, one 15 miles west of the editor's house.

Tornadoes in December are not common but happen. In 2018, one damaged properties in Taylorville Illinois including Bill and Shelby Berta's garage - which held three of their Corvairs. Report I have from back then was the Corvairs only suffered paint damage, fixed in the spring. Again, Prayers.

The strong winds did lead to some conversations of the value of adding an air dam to your Corvair - whether it is an early or late model. An air dam settles the front end of the car in strong winds especially as you are driving down the highway. Aftermarket, stock or one adapted from a Camaro all work. It makes driving in high winds, even cross winds, so much easier - and predictable.

More good news – the meeting was held at MotorHeads bar and grill on Toronto road - exit 90 from I-55. 18 members attended from way south in Murphyboro, Bill and Thelma Pierson to north in Pekin, Glen and Rita Rittenhouse. Tom and Carlen Curry also drove down from the great north. Eastward ho had Larry and Gloria Jahn from Hoopston. Not as far east but still a ways were the Colliers - James and Beulah. More local were the Halls – all of them - Mike and Rhona and then Prez Chris and Kayla and the three kids. Richard Grooms also was in attendance. We even had our PCCA chapter members in attendance - Bill and Shelby Berta. From the west? Hmm, Tim travelling from just west side of Springfield is as far west as we got this day.

It was simply great seeing everyone. Being surrounded by all the Route 66 memorabilia and having some good food sure made for a festive occasion.



PCCA donated over 18 toys for the Marine Toys for Tots campaign. We may have donated more, but this is the number I collected to be dropped off later (Monday). This year's first distribution of toys by the Toys-for-Tots campaign was slated for December 18. I am sure there will be 18 happy faces when they see the gifts donated. To be honest, I had to resist playing with some of those toys, they looked like such fun. And don't we all still play with cars (Corvairs)? I do.

As usual, PCCA did not have a business meeting at the luncheon. However, President Chris Hall did announce the PCCA Enthusiasts of the Year – James and Beulah Collier. They each received a gift certificate for Clarks Corvair Parts. Remember, the enthusiasts of the year is a collection of points for attending a meeting, arriving in a Corvair (passenger or driver), wearing Corvair/Club apparel, wearing your name tag and for helping with refreshments or a program. The Colliers were really good earning those points. Congratulations.

Disappointing news - Mike Hall, national president CORSA and CPF announced that the building housing the CPF Corvair Museum has been sold and the lease would not be renewed. Mike is looking for a new location, preferably close to Route 66 and other things of interest. Mike has only had a few days to look because he only learned of this a few days before the PCCA meeting. PCCA will still meet at the museum location in Glenarm for January. An alternative location has been found, if needed, for February and March. Maybe by the time you receive this newsletter, Mike will have pulled yet another rabbit out of his hat.



CPF Museum News

CPF Preident Mike Hall announced at the PCCA Christmas get-together that the buildings housing the CPF Corvair Museum have been sold and the lease lost. The museum to vacate by the end of January, 2022. (Dang, this sound reminiscent of the events that closed the museum when it was in Virginia twenty years ago.)

PCCA will still be able to meet at the current Museum location on January 11.

Mike indicated he has leads for temporary storage of the Museum's collection - Corvairs included, in a dry, protected space with concrete floors. Mike, as I'm writing this two days after the meeting, has not had much time to look for a new location. A few possibilities have been given an initial investigation but nothing has been ruled out yet. If you have thoughts – specifically if you know of a possible location, let Mike know. Preferred location would be near the current location along US Route 66 to maintain that tie in which helps expose the Corvair and the Corvair Museum to other automotive history enthusiasts who may become Corvair enthusiasts.

Posted to the CPF Facebook page

It is unfortunate that I have to report that the building in which our CPF Corvair Museum resides in has been sold. We lost our lease which now requires us to remove all Corvairs and display items from the building on or before January 31, 2022. We apologize for any inconvenience this has caused those who have vehicles and items on loan in our museum as well as those who were planning to visit, however, we were given short notice.

We are actively looking to secure another building site, preferably on Route 66, as this would continue to be an ideal location for our museum. We will keep everyone posted of any changes, and we appreciate your understanding, and thank you for your continued support at this time.

Mike Hall President Corvair Preservation Foundation
Corvair Museum Curator

PCCA Fall Tour - Moonshine, Illinois October 14, 2006

Editor's Note: It's PCCA 45th anniversary January 1977 to January 2022. PCCA has been around a long time, but I have noted, several PCCA members have been married longer. Amazing. This Story is from October 2006, a tour to Moonshine to enjoy their famous burger and a few sights along the way.

Sue Biggs arranged for a wonder fall tour though southeastern Illinois. Some assistance from Shelby Berta and the husbands was likely, events like this are rarely a one person thing. Sue was hoping lots of Corvairs would be in the caravan. Sue did expect some water pumpers, but I bet that did not include a nice Dodge Diplomat that Floyd Woods decided to drive.

PCCA met at the Rochester Community Building just before 8:00am. Dick and Neta Moon as well as Jim and Bernie Allen drove down from the Peoria area in their Corvairs. That's two. An 1963 700 sedan and a 1965 Corsa convertible gets the caravan off to a good start. The Bertas, Bill and Shelby arrived in their Chevrolet convertible, water pumper but a nice car none the less.

Tim arrived with his sister Debbie in his 68 Fitch Sprint Coupe. While the McKenzies, Jerry and Thelma, opted for the ultra comfortable, and probably faster than my Sprint, modified 65 sedan with A/C. I am still amazed how quick that sedan with a 110 powerglide is. Of course, it could be that Jerry is just a better driver than I am. It's possible.

At the break of 8:00am, arrived the tour leaders, Garry and Sue Biggs. Garry was driving, Sue navigating, their 1961 Monza coupe. After everyone received a highlighted map, the tour was off to Greenup and then Moonshine.

The tour took the group through Taylorville and Pana, in one of those towns, the caravan got into Corvair year order – Biggs 61, Moons 63, Allans 65, McKenzies 65 and Mahlers 68. My sister thought that was fitting; mostly coincidence, but interesting. We stayed in that order to Green-up.

The tour stopped briefly at Boarmans in Shelbyville. This is a private collection of 13 50s and 60s Chevrolets. We were treated to a just completed 1959 Chevrolet with only 1100 miles on the odometer. The exterior paint had to be redone due to overly friendly birds, but the trunk and interior were still showroom condition, not restored showroom, factory showroom. Inside were the 12 Chevrolets, from 1956 to 1963. All very unique vehicles worth the trip by themselves.

As the tour went through Toledo, we went around the town square. The tour didn't stop, to make up for lost time, but like so many southern Illinois towns, the courthouse is a beautiful building. A tour just to see various courthouses would be interesting.

At Greenup, we stopped at the visitor's center, which was closed, as was most of the town, or so it seemed. We lingered while a few visited the two nearby antique shops, and one found more fuel. John and Joan Cavagna, PCCA and SMCC members, joined us here. John is still restoring his latest Corvair project so arrived in his water cooled vehicle.



Lawrence and Gloria Jahn were trying to meet up with the tour here, but were not successful. They were 2 blocks away at the right time, just out of sight. Lawrence did managed to find Moonshine so the 63 Spyder convertible joined the caravan there.

We arrived at Moonshine, promptly at 11:25 or somewhere around then, almost on schedule. This was surprising considering we left Greenup behind schedule knowing the Jahns were planning to meet us there. And we took a scenic excursion through the farmlands in the area. It was a good thing I wasn't leading the caravan, I would have taken us further off course. Garry and Sue got us back on track fairly quickly.

The Moonburgers were very good. Hamburgers, Cheeseburgers, double cheeseburgers, chips, soda and cake. It was a true country atmosphere. Order at point A in the back. Pay up front, on your honor. And I mean, on your honor. No tickets, no guard at the door, eat inside or outside. Pay before picking up your food, afterwards, or even after you have finished eating. And they even made provisions for those who leave forgetting to pay, simply put the money under the door. The food was good.

After Moonshine, we headed back toward Greenup. Along the way is the auto enthusiast country store, AKA, a junk yard, Stutesman's Used Cars and Garage. This is not your typical junkyard. Started 50 years ago, it looks more like a farmers pasture that was used to store a few than many junked vehicles. We passed the pigs on our way to see the many cars in the year. Spotted were a Greenbrier, a 64 monza that had donated parts of its fenders and some 60s further down the hollow.

Now the farmers were prepping to unload some grain, it is harvest season. But were not willing to do so while all the nice Corvairs were parked nearby. Farmers are nice folk, always helping even if it impedes them. To encourage those done in the hollow to hurry up, several of the group proceeded to Greenup and gave their horn a toot on the way. The hollow folk arrived shortly thereafter (they were almost back anyway).

Back at Greenup, the quick tours to the antique shops and quilt store were ended so that the tour could continue to the Thomas Lincoln sites. The first stop along this route was the church and cemetery where Thomas Lincoln is buried.

The next stop was the Thomas Lincoln farmstead from the 1845 period. The visitor center here is fantastic, with a short film and numerous exhibits to preview. My impression was that this was a better site than New Salem in terms of the visitor center. The interpreters in the Thomas Lincoln home were fun too. Like so many of the stops along the way, we didn't have a lot of time here. But it was enough to get a good feel for the area and make us want to visit again.

After touring the site, the club had a quick meeting while everyone was snacking on the great refreshments that Sue Biggs and Shelby Berta brought. Thanks Sue, Shelby, the snacks were great, even though I ate too much.

After the meeting, the tour began to break up. The first stop, back in Matton, was fuel, it was a long tour, and some of us have a heavy foot. The Mckenzie's followed 16 back home, the Cavagna's found the interstate, the Peoria foursome took US45 north (I think) and the rest took the Assumption black top back to Taylorville. It was a great tour.



This Ad was posted to the Corvair Preservation Foundation Facebook Page.



CPF RAFFLE CAR!!

Win this Concours-quality black 1961 Corvair Monza Sport Coupe with red interior, 102hp, 4 speed that's ready to drive and show! More pictures on the CORSA web site . www.corvair.org under merchandise for sale. click on the raffle ticket to take you to the page with all the details and pictures.



Tickets are only \$10.00 each and will help to support the Corvair Preservation Foundation and Corvair Museum. Ther more tickets you buy, the better chances to win. The winner will be announced on June 5, 2022. You do not need to be present to win.

Note: This article appeared in the *VairCor* - sometime in the past. I retrieved it from Heart of America Corvair Owners Assn web page - tech section. Texh article number 162. Again, my thanks to Mike Dawson for writing another great article.

The Preventive Maintenance Series

Mike Dawson

Late Model Window Issue

A repair I recently made on a late model drivers door window is becoming more common with late models as time passes. A preemptive maintenance procedure would be a good idea, plus every thing in the door that moves may not have been lubricated since the '60's. The problem is poor spot welds at the factory between the glass bottom channel and the slides; the welds fail and let the window get jammed during operation. Forcing the window will wind up bending the lower sash channel which is almost impossible to bend back perfectly because of its shape.

Pictured below is one of the 2 areas where the spot welds break (front and rear channel slides). Pulling the door panel allows access by adjusting the window height. Small welds done one at a time with quick cooling (water soaked rag) will cure (or prevent) the problem. Have a waterproof door paper on hand (Clark's) as it is usually bad.



The bottom of the window is spot welded to the channel slide and will break loose.



This is the lower sash channel that will bend if the window is forced with the crank.



This front mount is now repaired.



This is the rear mount reinforced.

Before starting, you may need to acquire the waterproof door paper if yours is original and be sure to use a can of spray grease to lube anything that moves.

PCCA Tour Proposals – Which would you prefer - one, two, all of them? and when - April, June, October? Summer, Fall ? Still open for discussion, Please Let us know your preferences.

There has been some concern expressed with the current spike in covid-19 cases - and worse, hospitalizations related to covid-19. Summer 2022 is a ways off, yet will be here before we know it. Having some plans in place – or not - would be good. Expect January meeting to get the ball rolling.

Larry Jahn -- 70 miles east of Springfield - Tuscola/freemont/Atwood -- Harris Ag Museum main draw, Tuscola ice cream/sandwich shop (Flesors Kitchen) for lunch. Other museums, attractions in the area.

Bill Berta –Visit the Ace Sign Company Museum, Or a return to Taylorville private auto museum and a miners museum nearby. The courthouse may be open with several attractions. Plus there is antique shop, a boutique and other shops on the square. There is a nice bakery on the north side of the square, too.

Jim Allen -- Pekin -- another private museum, Memory lane on first floor of former school building.
Numerous "room/store settings"

PCCA Programs for 2022

For January - expect a walk down memory lane via pictures – PCCA history. It is PCCA's 45th anniversary in January. PCCA first met in January, 1977. Do I have pictures from those early years? No, I didn't join PCCA until late 1996 and became editor in January 1998. But thanks to Bill and Shelby Berta, I now have some albums from the early days of PCCA. Special thanks to Sharon Rogers who put those albums together - ages ago - from photos and newsletter articles and other notes. Wow. Yes, I'll bring the albums too.

Future Programs: I need someone(s) willing to do a presentation or two – ideas include the Monza Jr karts that Chevrolet made available, thru Rupp, to the public; the Corvair based Ultravans; maybe even the unique GMC Motorhome that many Corvair enthusiasts also drive. A tech session or two would be nice. Please volunteer and make the PCCA meetings that much more fun.

If you are willing to give a presentation, or have a presentation that you would like to here – please let the VP know. Who is the VP for 2022 – Tim Mahler, aka, the editor.

Prairie Capital Corvair Association (PCCA) Membership Form

January 1, 2022 thru December 31, 2022

Type of Membership	Individual	_____ \$17
	Family	_____ \$20 (2 adults at one address plus children under 18)

Apply a \$5 discount for receiving the electronic version of the newsletter and other correspondence.

If joining after July 31, dues are: Individual \$8.50, Family \$10.00. If applicable, the discount is \$2.50.

Name	Spouse/ 2nd Adult

Street Address

City, ST ZIP

Home Phone _____ CORSA Membership ID _____

Cell Phone(s) _____ Spouse/ 2nd Adult _____

e-Mail Address(es) _____ Spouse/ 2nd Adult _____

Cars, Corvair and other _____

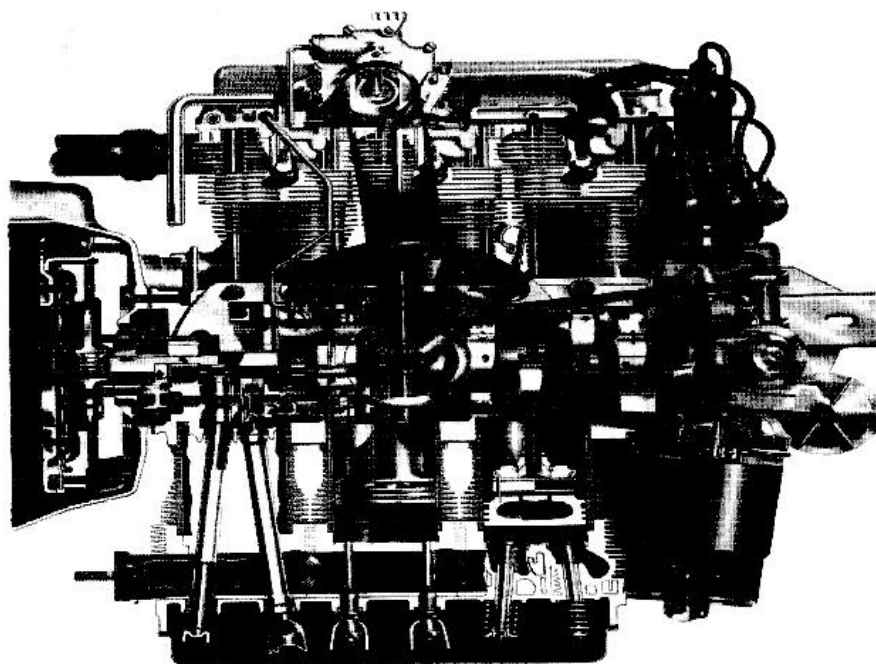
Other interests

PCCA strongly encourages membership in CORSA. Do you want/need information about CORSA? Y / N

Return the completed form and dues to: Glen Rittenhouse, PCCA Treasurer
1804 Columbus Dr. Pekin IL 61554

Please make checks payable to Prairie Capital Corvair Association or PCCA

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