

## Prairie Capital Corvair Association

P.O. Box 954  
Springfield, Illinois 62705

# The Flat Six

March 2022

### 2022 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	January 10, 2022

### 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 fellow PCCA Members!

Well yesterday (Feb 17) sure was a fun time! Went to work in the rain. Two hours later it turned to freezing rain then into snow ❄️. By noon all of my Technicians went home before it got worse. Finally got myself out the door towards mid-afternoon and took a little over an hour to get home. Ran into some white-out conditions in some rural areas. Rumor has it we've got some more snow headed our way next week❄️. Only bright side is we're on the downward slope of the month of February! For us this is great news! We're getting closer & closer to SPRING! Did you get on the CORSA Members meet-up on Zoom this Month? Cal Clark gave a virtual tour of Clark's Corvair Parts facility! I found it very informative! To think of Clark's Corvair Parts starting up from what they had to what they have now is extraordinary! We certainly missed having you at the February meeting! We had Tom Pollard join our club! He's going to be busy getting his Corvair road ready! Welcome to the FUN! Vice-President Tim Mahler brought in club history books to look at. They were very interesting! We'll be meeting at the CPF Corvair Museum in March! We may have an additional segment of the PCCA History to learn about! Have you heard of any car shows that will be going on in your area? Maybe even "Cars & Coffee"? It would be awesome if we could get a little list together so everyone knows! We are moving the CPF Museum Event to September! It will run in conjunction with the Secretary of State Antique Auto Show! Speaking of Secretaries.... Who would be willing to volunteer to be Secretary for the remainder of the year? I believe we may also need a volunteer to become our Club Historian! Please give it some thought! I'll leave you with giving some thoughts about doing a club picnic like we've done in the past. Perhaps doing one in the fall might interest some? Please give us some feedback! Go give your Corvairs a big hug & a pat on the fender & tell them it won't be long now!

Chris Hall, PCCA President.



# Calendar of Events - 2022

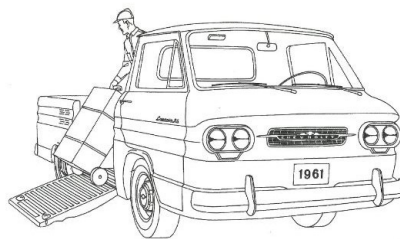
PCCA Home Page may be found at <http://www.corvair.org/chapters/chapter627>

**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.



**March 12, 2022 PCCA Meeting at the Museum 2:00-4:00 pm.**  
**LOCATION: CPF Corvair Museum (exit 88 off I-55)**

**April 9, 2022 PCCA Meeting 2:00-4:00 pm.**  
**LOCATION: CPF Corvair Museum (exit 88 off I-55)**  
**Program: The Model A Ford**



CORVAIR "95" RAMPSIDE PICKUP

**May 14, 2022 PCCA Meeting at 12:30pm, tour starts 11:00 am.**  
Tour to Tuscola and Atwood Museums and other attractions. Meet in Springfield to caravan (9:30am) to Tuscola or go directly to Tuscola (11:00 am). Lunch Meeting at Flesor's Candy Kitchen in Tuscola at noon.

**June 11, 2022 Pawnee Prairie Days, Pawnee**  
**June 11, 2022 PCCA Meeting 2:00-4:00 pm.**  
**LOCATION: Pawnee Prairie Days, Pawnee**  
**June 12, 2022 Tremont Turkey festival and Car Show, Tremont, IL**  
**July 9, 2022 PCCA Meeting 2:00-4:00 pm.**  
**LOCATION: Expected to be the CPF Museum**



**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.

**August 15 Corvair Exhibit at the Illinois State Fair**  
**PCCA Meeting at the fair (it's senior day, free admittance for seniors) 1:00-2:00 pm.**

**August 20, 2022 PCCA Morning Tour** to Pekin Museum - plus lunch and maybe another museum  
**August 21, 2022 Antique Auto Show & Swap Meet** Sunday, Pinckneyville, IL  
Sponsored by the Egyptian Antique Auto Club - Judging at 1:00pm

**September 8-10 CPF Museum Event, in conjunction with the SOS Auto Show.**  
Thursday, Sept 8 - Welcome dinner at the Museum. Friday - Rte 66 Road Tour, SOS Show Welcome Party. Sat - SOS Auto Show (Judged and Display), Banquet hosted by PCCA and CPF.  
**September 10, 2002 Secretary of State Auto Show, Springfield Illinois, PCCA meeting at show - 1:00pm**

For more Corvair Events Check the calendar on the CORSA Web site: [www.corvair.org](http://www.corvair.org)

# February PCCA Meeting.

Hmm. The weather was cold, windy - like many early February days. And the latest covid-19 spike was still high, although on a downward slope. Those two items combined to limit attendance to just 8 PCCA members. However, this did include one NEW member – Tom Pollard.



WELCOME TOM !!!

Tom is working on restoring his Corvair and was in attendance, in part, to obtain some parts, and discuss about the acquisition of other parts. I think Mike Hall was a key participant in arranging discussions between buyer and seller, including suggesting buying a part from Clark's Corvair Parts vs using one of his own used but nice parts. Welcome Tom.



Oh, meeting at the Museum was also a bonus. Tom had not been to the museum before Saturday, I think he will return again to see all the things he missed this trip even though he walked around the museum for many minutes. Mike, Brian and Sandy changed things around regularly, so even regulars see something different each time they visit. I know I usually do. At least they haven't started hanging a lot of items off the ceilings....yet. Remembering to look "up" is something I remind myself to do when I'm in older buildings. Some of the best features are above eye level.

Jim and Beulah Collier made it to the meeting from Decatur but the nice Maroon 65 Coupe did not. It was hit on their way home last month by a modern car. The damage wasn't severe but a new bumper and other items are needed. I think most of those items have, or will soon be, ordered. Get better soon, 65 coupe. (And all you PCCA members who may be suffering from the winter blues).

Mike Hall, Rhona Hall, Rich Grooms, Tim Mahler, and President Chris Hall rounded out the group at the meeting.

Tim brought the scrap books assembled by Sharon Rogers for everyone to peruse. Sharon must have spent days, weeks, putting those books together. Photos, stories, captions, newspaper articles. Tim will bring them to the March meeting, and maybe be able to do a slide show of more "recent" events. Recent is in quotes because the events Tim selected are all over 10 years old, some over 20 years.

See everyone in March.





# CPF Museum News

CPF Preseident Mike Hall announced that the CPF Corvair

Museum may remain open at its current location for at least through the fall. The current owner appeared to be OK with that scenario. Things could change, again, but we will keep our fingers crossed and keep looking for a more permanent solution (building location).

# 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](http://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. The 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.

# It's Time to Renew your PCCA Membership !!!

**To date: Only 16 members have renewed. PLEASE renew. Thank you. Tim**

## 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

# Raymond Loewy Corvair Towncar

Joe Darinsig Central Pa. Corvair Club

I visited the AACA Museum in Hershey, Pa. On Friday. These interesting items I saw there.... In the basement with all the busses was this strange looking Corvair. It was a mini-limousine!!

It was built for Raymond Lowery who was involved with the Studebaker and other various cars. He had it built for transporting his wife around. I heard of it before but really did not ever see it. It is on loan by the previous owner.

Strange looking early Corvair indeed... No hubcaps, one half flat tire, and the Yellow paint theme on the passengers side. The drivers side did not have the yellow paint theme because it was a accident there and was repainted but not the paint striping ?!

Also didn't get caught lifting the engine to gator a look. The engine compartment was a mess looked like someone dumped a bucket of dust on it. Not knowing if it ever ran or did the push it in ??

Very unusual Corvair so the "One of a kind..." remark stands there. Enjoy.



Editor Tim Mahler Adds: Joe posted these pictures to Facebook - CORSA, CPF and PCCA pages. So who may want to look there as well. I found it interesting because years ago, Dick Moon gave me a copy of a page from Raymond's book "Industrial Design" that featured this same car. I had thought it to be just a concept on paper. But lo and behold, Raymond had converted a 64 Corvair into this chauffeur driven towncar "limo".



This well known picture of a 1961 Corvair in winter scene was taken by Mr. Walter Farynk, Chief Photographer for General Motors at time. The image was created at the Tech Center Photography Studio, and it was done by front projecting the background onto a screen and then building the winter landscape around the Corvair vehicle. This photo was done in color and black and white and it was used for public relations.

Additional info: Ed Cole (a/k/a "Father of the Corvair") used this image for his Christmas card. How cool it must have been to receive a Corvair Christmas card from Ed Cole! I recently asked friend, David Cole (Ed Cole's eldest son) if he remembers this particular card his dad used. He said he does remember the image and he would have to look in his father's items to see if he kept one of the cards as a souvenir. If he finds it, I will post a photo of it. I'd be curious to know what the message inside the card reads. The photographer of this picture did a good job of making this winter scene look realistic highlighting and promoting the fact Corvairs were (and still are) great in snow.

Other fun facts: Although the Corvair had only been in production for one year (beginning in 1960), GM felt the front end needed a "stronger look" according to GM Assistant Chief Designer, Paul Deesen, who is credited for giving the 1961 Corvair its new front end facelift. Paul also created some of the emblems for the early generation Corvairs, had design input for the 62 Corvair, was the third designer of the 1962 Monza GT concept car (designed the side), and created a wheel cover for the 1961 model. When he applied for his wheel cover design patent, the U.S. Patent Office mistakenly recorded it as a "Corvette" because whoever processed the paperwork never heard of Corvair and they never corrected the mistake!

David Cole purchased a brand new 1960 Corvair when they first came out and later bought a new 1965 Corsa. Who was Ed Cole? Ed Cole was a brilliant engineer who was responsible for getting the Corvair into production. He was Chevrolet's General Manager in 1956 and promoted to GM's Executive Vice President in 1965 and became President of General Motors in 1967.

By: Eva "Corvair Lady" McGuire Corvair Historian

(1st paragraph info about the photographer and how they made the picture courtesy of Detroit photographer, Jim Secreto. Additional info/fun facts by Eva McGuire; image courtesy of General Motors)



**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 161. Again, my thanks to Mike Dawson for writing another great article.

# The Preventive Maintenance Series

Mike Dawson

## Guide Pins: Simple But Useful Helpers For Fun With Corvairs



There are two sizes that are most useful, 5/16-18 and 3/8-16. You can use long shank bolts or threaded rods (easiest to adapt to all situations), and after cutting them to length, saw screwdriver slots in the ends.



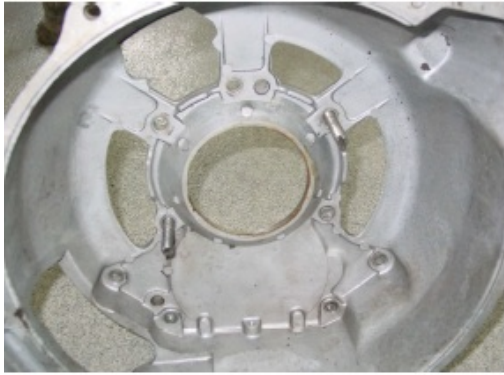
There are some thin sections in the alt/gen gasket which can be torn or misaligned; use of the 5/16 pins makes that almost impossible to occur.



Attaching the transaxle to the engine is greatly aided with use of pins, the left pin in the picture would be threaded into the differential. I found the extra long one useful on the right side.



Lining up two gaskets, the baffle and the top cover utilizes the 5/16 pins to good advantage, since the holes are not symmetrical from side to side.



Although there are two small guide pins in the clutch/converter housing, longer guides are helpful when attaching the housing to the engine crankcase.



If you do Powerglides, use of the 5/16 pins is required to install the rear pump and is useful when installing the front pump.

You could also use the 5/16 pins to install a Powerglide pan, any differential top cover and you could make some 1/4-20 pins for oil pans. Anything to help keep it fun!



## ***PCCA Tours***

May Tour Coordinator: Larry Jahn. **Douglas County Tour on May 14, 2022**

Leave Springfield at 9:15-9:30 Tuscola is 78 miles, approximately 1 ½ hours.

Meet at Douglas County Museum at 11:15 Tour in one room, takes about 45 minutes.

Flesor's Candy Kitchen in Tuscola for lunch---12:00 Would have our own private meeting room

Travel to Atwood, Il to Museum 15 minutes Tour Harris County Museum 1:30-3:00.

Larry would like to have headcounts for the tour and lunch – at least a good estimate.

August Jim Allen has made arrangements for PCCA to tour a private museum in **Pekin Illinois for August 20, 2022**. Memory lane is on the first floor of a former school building with numerous "room/store settings". A morning tour is planned with option for lunch to be determined. Some members may want to visit the Wheels O' Time museum in Dunlap in the afternoon. Sunday is the Pinckneyville car show in south central Illinois.



## **PCCA General Meeting Minutes for February 12, 2022 taken by Tim Mahler**

President Chris Hall opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 2:24pm. Members present included Chris Hall, Mike Hall, Rhona Hall, James Collier, Beulah Collier, Tom Pollard, Rich Grooms and Tim Mahler.

Secretary report for the January meeting was printed in the Flat Six. Mike moved to approve, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rich, Approved. The Treasurer's report was read by Tim Mahler from the document from treasurer Glen. The checking account started with a balance of 4,864.81. 1 member was noted as renewing and \$30 was collected for raffle car tickets (transferred to CPF). Ending balance was \$4,884.81 with \$5 in savings and \$79 in petty cash. A motion to approve by James, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike; Motion carried. Chris Hall reported PCCA membership renewals stood at 18 households with 30 individuals.

CPF Report: Mike Hall told the group he had the OK from the current building owner to proceed with the planned summer events at the current CPF location. CPF is looking into possibility to build a building for the museum. A fund raising committee has been formed (Acting secretary noted Lyle Rigdon, Bill Pierson and CPF Treasurer Paul Sergent and 2 others with fundraising expertise on the committee).

For the SOS Auto show, the Corvair and Studebaker are the feature marquees for the show and both will be on the available license plate. 700 plates will be available for purchase (and for Illinois registered vehicles, displayed on your car). The Corvair Museum event is being held in conjuncture with the SOS Show. The SOS Show has 5 judged classes for Corvairs plus a display class. The swap spaces at the show are free. The Show also has a welcome party for participants on Friday night at the host hotel. PCCA will host a Museum night and a Route 66 Road tour prior to the SOS show. Current thoughts.

OLD Business: April will feature a presentation on the Ford Model A. March will be PCCA stories.

Mike Hall will not be at the Pawnee prairie Days show because the BIG Truck show will be at the fairgrounds. He is a key person for that event.

NEW Business: The By-laws revision suggestions should be sent to Tim Mahler. Tim has several changes marked to be presented to the present membership in the near future, they will then be noted in the FlatSix before a vote to accept or reject them occurs.

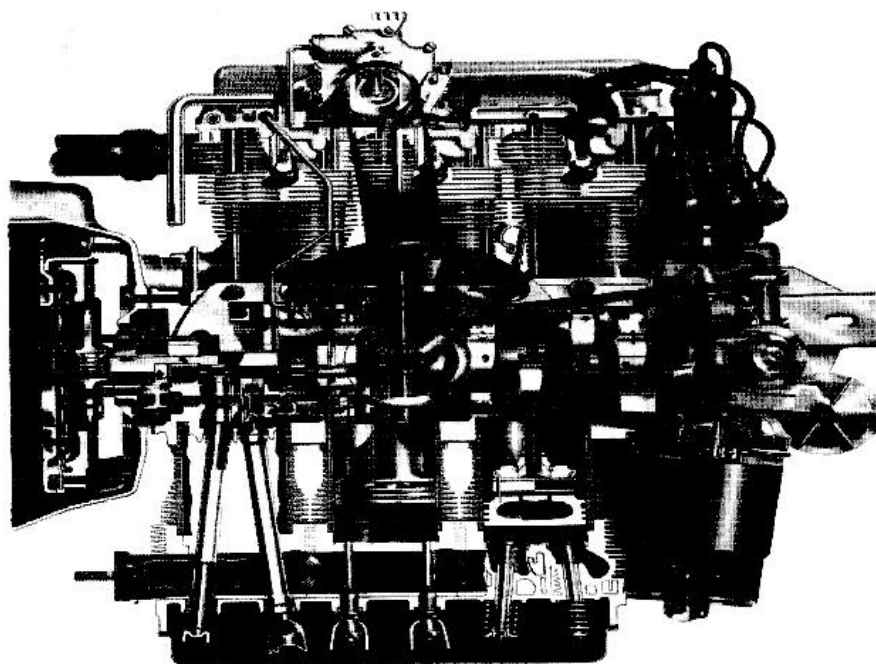
Chris asked the group if we wanted to creat car magnets to advertise PCCA (like was done years ago) Windshield Cards (Tim has the "program" Thelma McKenzie created a few years ago) Club merchandise? Anybody need Name tags? (Several indicated yes)

The meeting was adjointed at 3:06 pm. Mike and Rhona Hall brought refreshments. No 50/50 was held.



The page from Loewy's book, given to me by Dick Moon. It hangs on my wall next to a pair of drawings by Bob Veryzer.

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