



Prairie Capital Corvair Association

P.O. Box 954
Springfield, Illinois 62705

The Flat Six

March 2021

2021 Officers

President -Chris Hall	(217) 691-6529	Vice-President Larry Jahn	(217) 283-7365
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Mike Hall (2021)	(217) 494-7105	Sandy Myers (2022)	(217) 624-4400
Glen Rittenhouse (2021)	(309) 472-3882	Brian Nicholson (2021)	(217) 891-0808

From the Prez

Chris Hall

Greetings fellow PCCA Members!

I don't know about the rest of you but, I'm ready for spring! It wasn't all that bad today temperature wise. Just about into the 40 degree range! It worked out decent enough to attempt to get rid of all that white stuff off my driveway. Now, in checking my email the other day I got an infamous message from CORSA. The 2021 International Convention has been cancelled due to a host of reasons which you probably know about. However, with San Diego, CA. not being able to happen, our Mini-Convention looks to extend slightly longer than initially planned. The reasons for the extension would be to allow group meetings to happen as well as a destination for those that just want somewhere to go. We most likely have several things to plan, possibly re-plan or even just jump-in-and-go tasks to complete. Time keeps flying by faster and faster. The Mini-Convention will be here before we know it! If you can help us in any way I'd greatly appreciate it! We will be having planning meetings as we go along. We should have a lot of information at the March meeting! I hope you can attend! Now, I've just got to leave you with a little joke! "What's a shark's favorite science fiction TV show? Shark Trek." - 40 Hilarious Jokes About Television! | Best Jokes and Puns (ba-bamail.com)



Bill Pierson and Mike Hall, in the foreground are sample Communiques from years past

Chris Hall.

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. The building was the location of Elite Classic Cars a few years ago.

Events - 2021

March 13, 2021 PCCA Meeting at the Museum 2:00-4:00 pm.
LOCATION: CPF Corvair Museum (exit 88 off I-55)

April 10, 2021 PCCA Meeting at the Museum 2:00-4:00 pm.
LOCATION: CPF Corvair Museum (exit 88 off I-55)

May 08, 2021 PCCA Meeting at the Museum 2:00-4:00 pm.
LOCATION: CPF Corvair Museum (exit 88 off I-55)

**May 18-22, 2021 Mini Convention: The Next Generation, Springfield IL
to benefit the CPF and CPF Museum**

**NOTE: PCCA added a day for an autocross. Wednesday - Concours, Thursday - Autocross,
Friday - Rally, Saturday - Car Display, Banquet. Still a Mini, but with more things to do.**

The PCCA web site has a link to the 2021 Mini Convention - The Next Generation.

<http://www.corvair.org/chapters/chapter627/mini2021.htm> The information has been updated for 2021, The site has a link to registration - paper and electronic (preferred) plus a link to host hotel reservations.

A presentation by William Wynne will be at a nearby airport and is part of the Rally. A Corvair powered fly-in is also expected at that airport. The host hotel will remain the **Crowne Plaza Hotel, Springfield Illinois.**

June 12, 2021 PCCA Meeting at the Museum 2:00-4:00 pm.
LOCATION: CPF Corvair Museum (exit 88 off I-55)

July 10, 2021 PCCA Meeting at the Museum 2:00-4:00 pm.
LOCATION: CPF Corvair Museum (exit 88 off I-55)

August 14, 2021 PCCA Meeting at the Museum 2:00-4:00 pm.
LOCATION: CPF Corvair Museum (exit 88 off I-55)

August 16, 2021 Illinois State Fair - PCCA Corvair Exhibit. Monday of the State fair.

August 26-29 Detroit Homecoming 2021. Ann Arbor MI. Ypsilanti Museum Tour, Car Show, Rally and Ken Pepke's World class Hospitality room. Registration \$40 individual, \$65 Family.

September 11, 2021 PCCA Meeting at the Museum 2:00-4:00 pm.
LOCATION: CPF Corvair Museum (exit 88 off I-55)

October 1-3, 2021 **Great Plains Corvair Roundup**, Hosts: Arkansas Corvair Club in North Little Rock.
Editor suggests using US Route 67 from just south of St Louis off I-55 to Little Rock - nice 4 lane road.
Host Hotel is the Wyndham Riverfront Hotel, events include Banquet, Peoples Choice display, Valve cover races and a Fun Run. T-shirts available too. Nice Hotel, friendly and the Arkansas river is across the street with a nice walking path/park. Short walk across the bridge to downtown Little Rock and a long walk to the Clinton Presidential Museum.

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



2021 PCCA

February Meeting – Bitter Cold temperatures meant no Corvairs were driven to the meeting, but we did have 12 members present including several from Peoria/Pekin area and one from the deep south (of Illinois) in Bill Pierson. Parts were exchanged from Peoria to Murphysboro, I think. The editor was the recipient of two boxes of PCCA newsletters neatly organized in two boxes from 1977 to present day. This was from the collection of Garry Biggs which explains the organization. I will be reading those newsletters – from 1977 to 1997 during the rest of this cold snowy winter.

The meeting discussion was mainly about the upcoming Mini convention – and the status of the national convention. If you haven't been following the national CORSA news, the national convention in San Diego has been CANCELLED. It may re-emerge for 2024 but that has not been decided. The 2022 convention is still slated for the Atlanta area and 2023 moves back to the midwest in Wisconsin.

With this news, PCCA voted to add a day to the mini convention to allow for an Autocross. The Concours was moved up a day to Wednesday with the autocross on Thursday. The rally remains on Friday and the Car Display and Banquet on Saturday. Everyone gets to travel home on Sunday after saying farewell one last time – maybe with one more breakfast and a donut for the road.

Refreshments were provided by the Allens, Jim and Bernie provided drinks while their daughter brought some of her fabulous cupcakes. This year's cupcakes were themed for Valentine's day – fitting since we met one day before Valentine's day. The first option was a red velvet cupcake with a cream cheese icing. This was very good. The second option was a strawberry filling cupcake with strawberry icing – flavored with real strawberries. This was excellent and my personal favorite. Carrie noted that the strawberry icing was ornery - the moisture content of the strawberries made getting a icing consistency, versus a running glaze, difficult. She managed, I think, quite well. At least my taste buds were quite happy with the results, even though I may have been on a sugar high on my drive home.

If you missed the meeting, you missed an interesting discussion on the upcoming mini and some top notch refreshments. Plus, the Corvair museum is ever changing – each time I look around, I find something I haven't noticed before. That may not be saying much, I worked in the Howlett building for 40 years, and could still find things I haven't noticed or simply forgotten were there – so many details - especially in the ceilings.



Aleta Nicholson at the Museum sitting on the Corvair bench seat rocker. The 69 "x" body by fisher is on her left.



Yummy cupcakes by Carrie.



PCCA Membership Dues Are DUE!

27 households have now renewed for 2021 – with one or two renewing twice which means you'll be good for 2022 too. It is time to list those who have not been recorded as renewed. If we have made an error, please contact Jim Allen. We will rectify mistakes post haste.

Missing Renewals from : Paul Drake, John Funk, Richard Grooms, Betsy and Larry Fannin, Sandy Myers, and Rick Jameson Please Renew, we value your membership.

Prairie Capital Corvair Association (PCCA) Membership Form

January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2021

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:
Jim Allen, PCCA Treasurer
4130 N. Timber Circle, Peoria IL 61614

Please make checks payable to Prairie Capital Corvair Association or PCCA

DOOR PRIZES

A call to PCCA members – Need door prizes for the Mini Convention – do you have one or two items that could be donated? Know a business willing to donate something? Doesn't need to be expensive, maybe not even Corvair related although that helps.

Thanks Tim



Corvairs in Museums...

I have often visited this 1960 Corvair that has been on permanent display at The Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, Michigan. It was donated to the museum by Mr. Gus Minton of Jackson, Michigan. It has affectionately been given the name of "Willow Runner" by the former Willow Run Assembly Plant Corvair auto workers.

I was fortunate to get some photos with the engine lid up by special request. I love the color of this car. I want to thank the Henry Ford Museum for granting me special filming privileges to interview the Makers of the Chevrolet Corvair in their museum.

Eva "Corvair Lady"
McGuire
CPF Historian



Look closely and you will notice the whitewall tires were mounted facing in



And from across the pond, and from May 2017, Bob Nicholson's former 1960 Corvair in England



Bob's 60 was the blue one. The green one was featured in a Communique Article just prior to this.



Pete Koehler

The BIG introduction of the Corvair to the general public was carried out at three locations in 1960: Detroit, Chicago and New York. Of course intro day was Oct. 2, 1959, but you had to go to your local Chevy dealer to view the all new Corvair for 1960. These three venues showcased the Corvair with several really cool displays. I think this is when the powertrain display was first shown - but I am not sure of that. I do know that all 12 of the powertrain displays used a 1960 engine as the basis. All future iterations including turbo and smog upgrades still had the 1960 block as the starting point.

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. Another Mike Dawson great article. Thanks Mike Dawson
The below are important as we get our Corvairs out of winter storage.

The Preventive Maintenance Series

Mike Dawson

Habits to Develop Around Old Corvairs!

Belt Adjustment: After you install a new belt, check the tension several times when the car is fully warmed up. New belts will stretch over a short period of time, especially if you drive at high speed. If your car has a history of either wearing out belts or flipping them off, there is a correctable reason. Please refer to PMS 20 on our Website.

Carburetor Inlet Nuts: On two and four carburetor engines you should check this item after any long storage and make a habit of a quick check any time the lid is up after the engine has been running.

Tire Pressure: Time can get away from us, so save wear, increase gas mileage and improve handling by checking monthly. For cars, keep a 10-12 psi difference between front and rear. FC vehicles handle much better on the highway in wind with pressures 40-45 psi front and back. Your spare should be filled to whatever your rear maximum pressure is.

Battery Cable Ends: Another maintenance item that can get away from us. Pull both battery cables off the battery and clean the contact areas twice a year. Keep track of your battery dates to avoid a no start from a seven year old battery you forgot about.

Brake Stomp Test: Unless everything in the brake system is new, you should sit in your garage twice a year and do a brake pedal stomp which would be harder than you would use in a panic stop. The system is designed to accept that and you could head off any pending brake disaster.

Oil Filter Bolt: The '65 Shop Manual called for 15-20 ft.lbs. torque on the oil filter bolt (filter to housing) which is far above "hand tighten only" which is printed on some older Corvair filter boxes. The big issue is that the filter torque is like fan belt tension noted above, the filter bolts can loosen up due to fiber gasket shrinkage. Following a filter change, be sure and check the torque at least once after several driving activities. Half of the cars I checked at the convention last summer had loose bolts, A couple had oil stains on the sides. The 15 ft.lbs number appears to be adequate and that is actually pretty tight.

Lug Nuts: Corvair lug nuts should be at 65ft.lbs. and will not loosen up with that torque. However, if you do some air wrench tightening be sure and check them with a torque wrench because some air wrenches make a lot of noise without producing much actual torque. Using a 4-way wrench works fine if you muscle the cross bar a little.

Mechanical Fuel Pumps: The single pointed bolt that secures the mechanical pump seems to loosen up due to vibration. Grab the top of the pump and try to rock it. Do not over tighten or you could lock up the pump internal push rod, but if the pump is loose and allowed to jump up and down it will quickly erode the aluminum parts. It also makes a rapid knocking noise. Always keep an eye out for leaks.

The 2021 CORSA Convention has been CANCELLED

We literally had to stop the press on the March issue of the *Communicate* to make sure that this announcement made it into that issue.

An emergency board meeting was held on the evening of Monday, February 15th. At approximately 11:00 pm Eastern Time, the CORSA directors voted to cancel the 2021 CORSA convention in San Diego. With the host hotel still not being open or even returning calls and the unavailability of a suitable hotel in the area to accommodate the guests and the activities that were scheduled, the board was left with little choice in the matter.

This decision did not come easily but with the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic still dominating a significant portion of our lives, it was not practical or even possible to conduct an event like a CORSA convention without a proper venue for the activities scheduled. As the health of our membership is paramount, we made the decision. We apologize for having to make such a drastic move but it was in the best interest of the membership and CORSA.

We will have more information about this in the April issue. As a partial remedy, we will be adding some additional activities and meetings to the Mini-Convention. A registration form for this event will be located on the cover wrap of the March issue, which will be in the mail soon.

-MIKE HALL, PRESIDENT
CORVAIR SOCIETY OF AMERICA (CORSA)



The local Boys Scouts may be helping with the Corvair Museum Dinner. It is expected to be a win/win for them and PCCA.

WW Flycorvair Fly-in

William Wynne

On Friday May 21st, I will be hosting a one day gathering of WW Flycorvair planes and builders in central Illinois, at Shelby County airport (Identifier 2HO). This event is aligned with the regional the Corvair society of America/Corvair Preservation Foundation Mini Convention , themed: “Corvair – The Next Generation”. Its in Springfield. I’m the guest speaker at their dinner on night of the 22nd.

The land based Corvairs that attend the CORSA meet do several area road trips, and on Friday the 21st, the cars and their owners will come out to the airport so we can both appreciate each others machines. Over the years we have looked for an opportunity to do this, but until now, have never had the perfect setting to accomplish this connection.

I will be at the airport on the 20th, stay all day on the 21st, and mid-day on Saturday head over to the CORSA meet. If you are building a Corvair, or even thinking about it, this is an excellent opportunity to see flying planes in person, in a relaxed setting. This is a fly in of WW Corvair planes so you can get a look at the layout and performance of these conversions, and directly speak to their builders.

Our local host is airport manager Scott Jeffson. He welcomed this idea from the beginning. If that doesn’t impress you, perhaps you have not been in aviation long enough to understand that most airport managers are preprogrammed to say “NO!” to every question asked of them. Jeff has been gracious about every aspect of this, and we are going to demonstrate our gratitude by maintaining a very high safety awareness, leaving the place cleaner than we found it, and cheerfully following every thing he asks, no matter how big or how small.

Special thanks to Eva “The Corvair Lady” McGuire. She has been the driving force on getting this event to dovetail with the CORSA meet. If you are on FB, check out her documentation on “Meet the Makers of the Chevrolet Corvair” , it covers stories and interviews with the men and women directly connected to the design and production pf the Corvair.



"Aviation Spectacular!"

One of our exciting highlighted CPF features at this year's CORSA/CPF Mini-Convention "Corvair - The Next Generation", set for May 18-23, 2021, in Springfield, Illinois, will be welcoming my special guest, Mr. William Wynne of FlyCorvair.net, who is the authority for converting Corvair engines into aircraft power plants.

As part of the Friday (May 21st) road Rally during the convention, Mr. Wynne created a Flycorvair Fly in event to tie in with our CPF "Aviation Spectacular" program that will take place all day at a nearby airport where Corvair powered airplanes will be on display and; (weather permitting), flight demonstrations will be taking place. Mr. Wynne will also be giving a talk presentation about the history of Corvair flight at the Saturday night banquet. I want to personally thank William Wynne for his cooperation and working with me on organizing this special event that all participants will enjoy.

Invite your Corvair and aviation friends who may find this fun and informative. You don't want to miss out on this. Anyone wanting further details only about the "Aviation Spectacular" can contact the organizer of this particular event, Eva "Corvair Lady" McGuire at corvailady@gmail.com.

For more information on the CORSA/CPF Mini-Convention "Corvair - The Next Generation", go to <https://fb.me/e/dcmzkaUAJ>. To register, go to corvail.org.

The convention is being hosted by the Prairie Capital Corvair Assn. Any questions about the convention, contact pcca@corvail.org.

Eva "Corvair Lady" McGuire CPF Historian

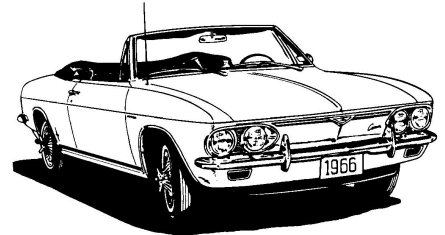
PCCA Meeting Minutes for February, 2021

recorded by Tim Mahler, Secretary

President Chris Hall called the meeting to order at 2:13pm leading the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The secretary report was approved as printed in the January FlatSix.

The Treasurer's report was given by Glen Rittenhouse for Jim Allen. Glen reported a beginning checking account balance of \$4,527.99. There was \$67 in deposits for membership renewals, \$20 from the 50/50, expenses totaled \$70.75 for newsletter expenses. There was \$5 in savings and \$125 in cash on hand for a total in all account of \$4,744.99. The report was approved by all members present. Glen also informed the group that there had been 26 membership renewals to date (one more at the meeting).



CPF Report. Mike Hall inform the group that the heat was still on. CORSA

Communique's are now available in 1 year sets, check the CORSA website for more information. Another road trip is planned to pick up another power train display and a 1960 Corvair and a Corvair neon sign.

Mini Convention. Mike then transitioned to Convention news. The national Convention in San Diego is expected to make a final decision the week of February 15, 2021. The host hotel is expected to be open to the public July 1. The convention begins July 26. There is some discussion of postponing the western division convention to 2024. This has not been formalized.

If it is postponed, Does PCCA want to add 2 days to the mini convention – basically making it the national convention for 2021 at the Crowne Plaza. Mike thinks PCCA could get help from CCC (Indy) and HACO (KC). Would need to use the hotel parking lot for the Autocross. Much discussion was held - mostly supportive with a few what ifs thrown in the mix.

Brian Nicholson moved to add 2 days to the mini to make it a National and ask the CORSA board to sanction it. Aleta Nicholson seconded the motion. Motion carried with no Nays and 1 abstention.

Further discussion was held noting changes to expect, needed to make this happen. Most notably was a need to add COVID-19 Full refund option to the registration page and Web Site because the local agencies may decide to not allow the event to happen. Mike will meet Scott Dahl, visitor's bureau for assistance. It was suggested to use the CORSA online store to handle t-shirt sales vs having them onsite. PCCA has recent experience to make the convention happen but not much time to prepare. Smaller group will meet in the next 10 days to get the planning and other logistics started.

Final CPF [news](#): The CPF has an opportunity to purchase the building complex that currently houses the Corvair Museum. Need to get a lot of donations to make that happen.

Refreshments were provided by the Allens. Jim, Bernie and daughter Carrie. Carrie was the cupcake baker and icer – Valentine theme - option 1: red velvet chocolate with cream cheese icing. Option 2, strawberry icing with strawberry filling (real strawberries in both). Both were super delicious. Chris Hall won the 50/50 drawing.

Corvair – The Next Generation

hosted by Prairie Capital Corvair Association • Crowne Plaza Springfield • May 18-23, 2021

Primary Registrant Information (please print)			Additional Name Badges	
Name				
Address				
City/State/Zip				
CORSA Member Code	Phone: () -		E-Mail	

Complete this section if entering any of these events: Autocross, Concours, Car Display, or Rally.

Car No.	Year	Model	Body Style	Serial No.	Ext. Color	Int. Color	HP	Trans.
(1)								
(2)								

Not a CORSA member? Complete the accompanying membership application. *Early Reg.* prices applicable for registrations received by 4/19

Event	Competitor Name	Car No.	Competitor Name	Car No.	Quan.	Early Reg.	Late Reg.	Amount
Convention Registration	<i>Convention registration is for one person and that person can participate in activities.</i>					\$35	\$45	
Additional Adults <i>Age 18 and older (under 18 are free)</i>						10	10	
Concours (per car)						25	40	
Rally (per car)						15	25	
Autocross (per competitor)						35	45	
Car Display (per car)						5	15	
Cruise-In (per car)						5	10	
Indoor Vendors (per table)						35	45	
Outdoor Swap Meet (per 12' x 20' space)						20	30	
Food Functions (per person)								
Awards Banquet (per person) <i>Indicate meal choice/quantities. Example: Beef 2, Chicken 1</i>	Beef ___ Chicken ___ Fish ___ Diet Restricted ___ <i>(send diet restrictions to Tim: flat6vair@comcast.net)</i>					40	50	
Dinner at the Museum (per person)						5	15	
Tours & Activities								
Self-Guided Tours to Historic Springfield, Route 66, and the Corvair Museum are also available.								
Merchandise <i>Any orders placed after 6/28 subject to availability and may not be available at the convention. Indicate adult sizes/quantities. Example: 15 2XL</i>								
Men's T-Shirt with a printed convention logo (Shirt Sizes: S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL)							20	N/A
<i>*Events marked as NIC are no charge to those who register for the convention.</i>								
Please include check payable to PCCA (payable in US funds) or fill out the credit card information below:							TOTAL	





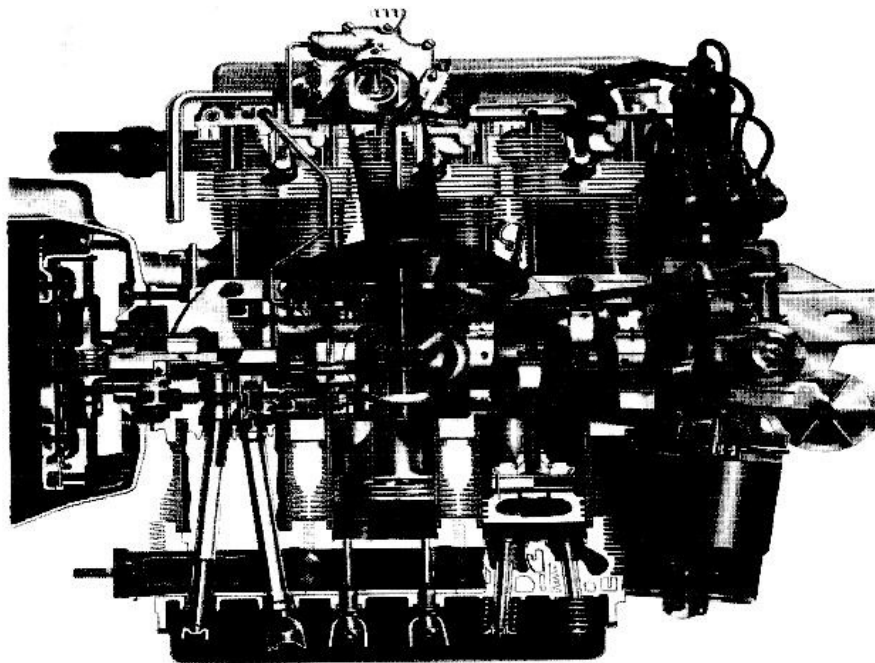
 Card No.:

Exp. Date: CVC[‡]

[‡]Card Validation Code For Visa, MasterCard, Discover: the CVC appears on the back of your credit card in the signature panel. The code is the last three digits. For AmEx: the CVC appears on the front of your credit card above the embossed card number. The code is four digits and is not embossed.

Mail to: PCCA, P.O. Box 954, Springfield, IL 62705

The Flat Six



Prairie Capital Corvair Association



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