

# Bay State Corvairs

# VAIRFORCE



Volume 42 - Number 9  
December 2015



**Merry Christmas  
Let's Ring in the New Year!**

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# Our 42nd Year!

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If you did not get the catalog in 2013 or 2014,

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**On the Front Cover: Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!**

**Introducing the 2016 Bay State Corvairs Executive Committee.**

**President: Ray Bombardier; Vice-President: Dave McMillan;**

**Treasurer: Peter Roca; Editor: Kathy Bombardier; Secretary: Ginger DeValk.**

**On the Back Cover: "I'll be home for Christmas" photo from a post card.**

The Bay State Corvair Club is the original Massachusetts chapter of CORSA (#017 of the Corvair Society of America), established in 1974. Club meetings are typically held the last

Wednesday night of each month (except December) at 7PM at the Tavern from Tower Square, 119 Washington St., Plainville, MA.

Dues are **\$25** per year.

Renewal of Membership occurs in January.

New members joining in October-December will be prorated the next year's membership.

Check out the club website at

[www.baystatecorvairs.org](http://www.baystatecorvairs.org)

**Refreshment Coordinator:**

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## ***From the Driver's Seat***

**Jason Cesana, BSCC President**

Well folks, my time in the leadership role has come to an end. It has been an honor and a privilege to be president of one of the best clubs around. I would like to thank John Teixeira, David McMillan, and Peter Roca for their hard work and support over the past two years. To say I could have done this without them would be a bold-faced lie! They have kept things level-headed and yet a lot of fun. I would also like to thank the folks that ran in the elec-

tions. As you may or may not know we separated the Secretary/Editor position, so now we have a five-person executive board. That being said, I would like to welcome Bay State Corvairs' first female board members; Ginger DeValk as Secretary and Kathy Bombardier as VairForce Editor. The rest of the board is Ray Bombardier as President, David McMillan as Vice-President and continuing as Treasurer is Peter Roca. What a crew! All kidding aside, I wish them the best and will give them my full support.

Too soon to start thinking about the cruising season 2016? NO WAY! We don't have anything on the calendar except for the CORSA International Convention on July 12-16. This upcoming convention is being held in Springfield IL. We have every intention of attending as we have taken a 2 year hiatus from conventions so it's about time we take a good family vacation. Any takers?

There is one favor I will ask of the membership for 2016. As you know one of the shows that people LOVE to see Corvairs is The All Chevy Show at Diamond Hill Park in Cumberland RI. Usually on the last Sunday of June, we have a great place to display the cars and a great place to spread out the Bay State Buffet. I'm asking that you really heavily consider putting this show on your must go calendar. We have had as high as 27 cars but I really would love to fill up around the pond with Vairs. There is a reason for this request. There is another club that is trying to muscle into our spot and they keep saying that we don't have enough cars to deserve the pond. I say poo poo to them! Let's show them what club pride is.

***Jason***

## ***A Word from the VP***

**John Teixeira, BSCC Vice-President**

Hello BSCC members. It's hard to believe it's already December and another year has come and gone. We had a great year for the club with a healthy membership, interesting car shows and an awesome ***Fall Classic at Clark's***. By now, all the Corvairs are in their winter dens patiently waiting for spring and the next cruise season to begin.

Although we won't be meeting at car shows, we will still have club activities during the winter months. First up is the annual holiday party on January 9<sup>th</sup>. This year it will be held at the Chateau restaurant on Bay St in Norton (formally Ann's Place). There is more information and reservation form later in the newsletter. And of course there are our monthly meetings at the Tavern in Plainville.

Well this will be my last AWftVP as my term as your vice president has come to an end. It has been my honor and a pleasure serving in this capacity. Congratulations to the new officers and I'm sur they will do a terrific job in the upcoming year.

***Be safe at all speeds, John***

PS: The answer to the last newsletter's trivia question "What was the first official White House Car?" is: A 1909 White Steamer, ordered by President William Howard Taft.



# From the Editor's Laptop...



My last VairForce . . . for now. I've been saying for the past few year that I needed a break from doing the newsletter, and now after a "*Corvair Decade's*" worth, the time has finally come. Originally, my thought was to take a break completely from holding an office, but I love being an integral part of this illustrious Corvair Chapter. So when someone made the suggestion and also nominated me for the position of VP, the thought to run grew on me, so here I am, soon to be the Vice-President of Bay State Corvairs. I'd like to thank those folks that voted me in. I'm so glad we were able to have a decent election this go around. In the event you were not able to attend the November Monthly election meeting, it gives me great pleasure to present below, the executive officers of Bay State Corvairs for 2016.

Our upcoming Annual Holiday Party is being held on Saturday, January 9th from 12 till 5 at the Chateau in Norton. See the flyer on the facing page. As usual, this is also a great time to renew your membership! Kind of like changing your batteries during daylight savings so you don't forget. By the way, we need to have a headcount for the Holiday Party by December 31st, so don't delay! I hope to see you there!

No worries about me not doing the newsletter for a while. Kathy B will do a great job . . . besides, I'll be back!

*Vairy truly yours,*

*Dave*



**Outgoing President Jason passes the meeting gavel to incoming President Ray during the executive board's December mid-month meeting.**



**I'LL BE BACK!**

PRESIDENT	VICE-PRESIDENT	TREASURER	EDITOR	SECRETARY
RAY BOMBARDIER	DAVE MCMILLAN	PETER ROCA	KATHY BOMBARDIER	GINGER DEVALK





# The Bay State Corvair Club's *Annual Holiday Party* 1PM to 5PM Saturday, January 9, 2016 *ONLY \$25 per person!*



**48 Bay Road Norton, MA 02766**  
Directions Below

## Buffet Menu Includes

Marinated Sirloin Steak Tips, Baked Lasagna with meat sauce, Chicken Marsala  
Oven Roasted Potatoes, Fresh Garden Salad, etc.  
Don't forget to leave room for dessert!  
All for just \$25 per person!

Directions: Take Exit 9 off Route 495 (north or south), travel north on  
Bay Rd. for 0.4 miles.

The restaurant will be on your left.

Please respond by December 31st, **Mail to: 'Bay State Corvairs'**  
2015 with the names of those at-  
tending. Write your check out to:  
**"BAY STATE CORVAIRS"**

**C/O Peter Roca  
131 Berwick Rd.  
Attleboro, MA 02703**

	Cost Each	Total
Member name	\$25	
Guest name	\$25	
Guest name	\$25	

<b>AND WHY NOT? IF YOU HAVEN'T DONE SO ALREADY, PAY YOUR 2016 DUES! ONLY \$25 FOR THE YEAR!</b>	\$25	
	Total Payment	



**No thanks  
Santa! I'd rather  
have this  
Corvair!**



*GM Postcard from 1961*



# Where are the Custom Corvairs?

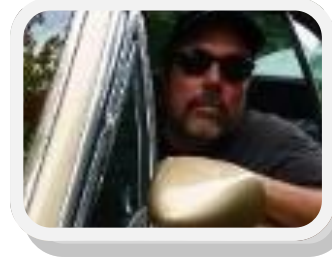
By Dave Silvia

Being a “car guy”, I subscribe to many car magazines, both classic and custom. They come in the mail and usually I can’t wait to crack them open and start reading. One of the magazines I subscribe to is called *DeLuxe Magazine*. It is loaded with heavily customized production cars of the 40’s, 50’s, and mid-60’s. No Camaros or Mustangs, just lots of Impalas, Starliners, Electras, etc. I have never seen a car in the magazine newer than 1966.



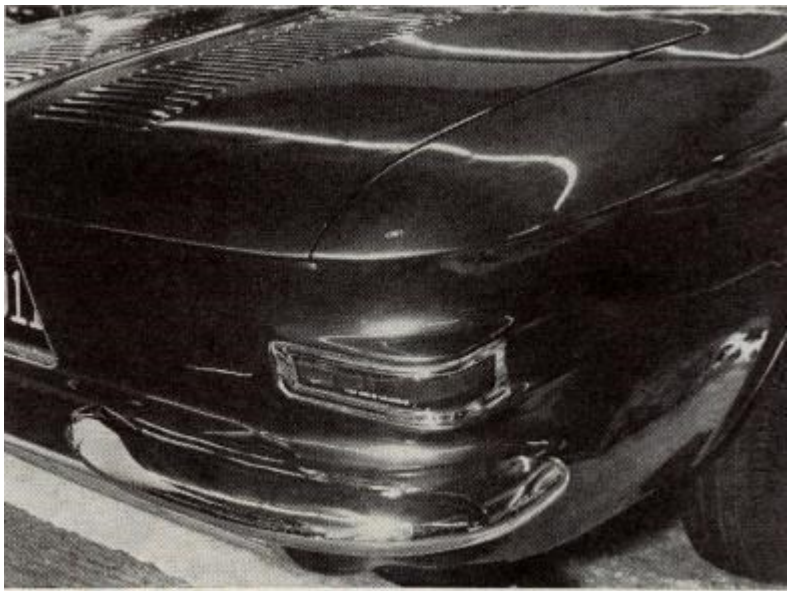
I’m sure your reading this and asking yourself, “Gee this is nice but what does this have to do with Corvairs?” Well, the question I’m asking myself is, “Where are the custom Corvairs?” Back in the early 60’s Corvairs were customized just like any other car of the time. Like any other artist, customizers were eager to try their techniques on something new and the Corvair

really fit the bill. They were featured in many how-to articles and even graced the cover of many magazines. Before they were considered more of a sporty car, they were just like any other car of the early 60’s and they were customized in the same style. People outfitted them with Tuck-and



-Roll pleated interiors to replace the modest upholstery. They replaced the hubcaps with Radir wheels or chrome reverses, they added gauges, and they installed custom steering wheels. But, unfortunately these Corvairs seem nowhere to be found. I’ve seen Corvairs for sale that say they are old customs but really none that capture the flavor of a car that was built in say 1961. The other thing is no one has recreated one either.

I often read the comments written by the editors of Rod and Custom. They admire cars that take a different approach. They applaud people who put a Packard engine in their 32 Ford. They extol the benefits of customizing a car that was not often considered a custom candidate, like a 1951 Plymouth Savoy. However, not since the 60’s have I seen a customized 1960 Corvair in a magazine. If no such car currently exists, perhaps the time has come to build one.



I say, someone should take up the challenge and build a Corvair that looks and feels like a custom from their pages. Custom cars are recreated all the time. Maybe it should

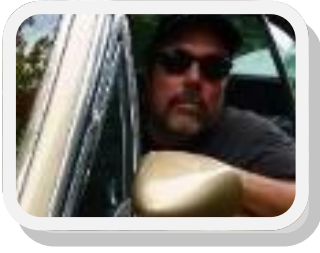
have a tuck and roll interior, or maybe it could have chrome reverse wheels; a stroll through an old copy of Hot Rod magazine could point the way.

The notion of creating a customized 1961 coupe is not silly and might be the key to having something really different!



# Parts of the Past

By Dave Silvia



The early 1960's was the heyday for Corvair accessories, as custom parts were all the rage. Whether you found them through an ad

in the back pages of Hotrod magazine, or in your trusty *J.C. Whitney* catalog that arrived almost monthly in your mailbox, it didn't matter, all were guaranteed to set your Corvair apart from the rest. Certainly, no company made more custom accessories than *Cal Custom*. Back in the 1950's, the company was called "*California Custom*" but sometime in the 1960's the name was shortened to *Cal Custom*. *Cal Custom* made inexpensive custom accessories for full size Chevys and when Corvair arrived on the scene it was natural for them to try to tap into a new market. One of the rarer accessories for the Corvair were custom taillights. They called them the "Continental" taillights. In reality they looked more like Mercury Comet taillights of the same era. They made them for full size Chevys as well as the Corvair. They were available just about anywhere *Cal Custom* parts were sold, including *J.C Whitney* and *Honest Charley's Speed Shop* (where this ad came from). I have never seen a set on a Corvair but I have seen them for sale on eBay. As you might guess they are a rare sight today.



## THE "CONTINENTAL"



- Latest Blunt Nose design.
- Full die cast chrome bezel with tapered fins.
- Glamourizes rear of car — adds lots of class.
- Built in reflector.
- A complete stop and tail light assembly, ready to mount.
- Brilliant red plastic lens.

The Continental may be purchased as a complete universal tail light assembly or the lens alone can be obtained and installed on existing tail light housings, where it will fit.



### COMPLETE UNIVERSAL TAIL LIGHT

Includes lens with chrome bezel, chrome plated base, bulb, wire, etc., assembled.

71388 Red Lens 12 Volt	}	Your Price Each <b>4.95</b>
71386 Red Lens 6 Volt		
71389 White Lens 12 Volt		
71387 White Lens 6 Volt		

Length 3½", Width 4¼", packed 1 per carton. Weight 1 lb.



### YOUR PRICE \$2.95 EACH

Includes lens with chrome bezel. Attaches to present tail light housing.

71390 Red Lens	71392 Red Lens
71391 White Lens	71393 White Lens

Corvair 1960-61  
Chevrolet 1958  
Other cars with 2 1/8" hole spacing.

Chevrolet 1960-61  
Other cars with 3 1/2" hole spacing.

Packed 1 per carton. Weight 1/2 lb.



## DID YOU KNOW...

There are more than 16,400 parking meters in Manhattan, N.Y. and New York cabbies get about 2,000 tickets per month handed out by about 2,000 traffic attendants. Manhattan traffic crawls at an average of 6.2 mph on the midtown city streets .





# ANNOUNCEMENTS!

## **MEMBER UPDATE!**

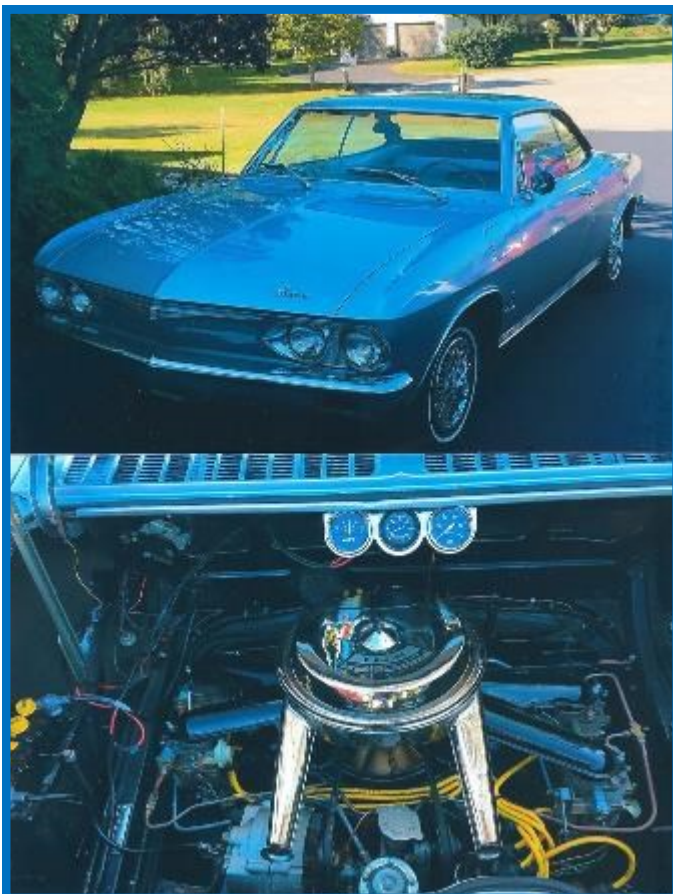
The 2015 Membership count is currently at

**113!**

*The 2016 Membership Roster is starting, renew your membership!*

## **Please Welcome!**

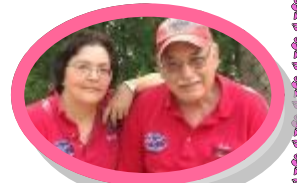
Louis and Margaret DiPalma from Middletown, RI. They have two daughters, Kellie and Abigail and they own a 1965 Monza with a 140 motor.



## **Sad News**

It is with a heavy heart that we announce the passing of both John and Cathy Sunden. John passed away November 28th and Cathy passed on December 15th.

They were heavily involved members of LICA, and became members of Bay State Corvairs after attending the Fall Classic in 2010. They will be greatly missed.



## **Monthly Meeting!**

The Next Monthly Meeting at the Tavern in Plainville is **Wednesday, January 27th!**

We hope to see you sooner at the Chateau in Norton for our **Annual Holiday Party!**



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**PLAINVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

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Living Bread Food Pantry  
30 Year Anniversary

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November 23, 2015

DBA Bay State Corvair Club  
C/o Ray Bombardier  
131 Berwick Road  
Attleboro, MA 02762

Dear Bay State Corvair Club Members,

This is to acknowledge with great appreciation your generous donation to the Living Bread Food Pantry. Our Food Pantry helps several families every week and our resources are consumed rapidly. Over the past several years we have had an increase in the number of families using the Food Pantry due to the economy. We could not operate without help from concerned, giving people like you. Your gift will make it possible for us to honor our promise that no one in the Plainville area will ever go hungry.

Once again thank you very much for your donation of \$200 and thank you for your continued support. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Yours truly,

Rebecca Simon  
Living Bread Coordinator

Thanks to all of you who donated either food for the 'Living Bread Food Pantry' in Plainville and/or a toy(s) to our first ever "Corvairs For Kids" collection boxes at the November monthly meeting. Both donations were delivered and warmly received. An official thank you from Becky Simon has been received and Jim Boucher from 'Toys For Tots' sent us a photo of our donation after it was packed into a Police Cruiser. Again, thanks to all of you for your generosity. **Ray Bombardier**



## Annual Thanksgiving Gathering

By Ray Bombardier

This event has become an annual autumn tradition for Kathy and myself. We look forward to the trek north to the Webster, New Hampshire Grange Hall to attend the Central New Hampshire Corvair Association's Thanksgiving feast. This year it was on Sunday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>. In the past we've been joined by other BSCC members who hold dual memberships between our two clubs but this year we drove up solo. I wish we lived closer so we could attend other meetings and events they put on but we always try to make their Spring Dust-Off and Thanksgiving Feast and a couple of times their Christmas Party but as they know driving conditions deteriorate rapidly north of the NH border and snow can be a real game changer. I've put in my request for no snow this year so we can make it up for their Christmas party as well.

The CNHCA ladies were there early preparing the room for the dinner. There were apples to peel for their homemade pies and turkey to get ready to pop in the oven. Wayne Cox again this year manned the turkey fryer out back with an additional fried turkey. Janis Cox

made gravy, stuffing and mashed potatoes. As folks arrived with their various side dishes, they were directed to the kitchen to add those items into the warming ovens. The delicious aromas of the 'King' of all dinners, *Thanksgiving*, wafted in the air. Many appetizers were set out to snack on during the meet & greet before being

asked to take a seat. After a few announcements, Tim Sattler once again led us all in a prayer of Thanksgiving before Ginny Blackmer gave each table the nod to go through the

beautifully set up buffet line. It's times like this I miss the days when I put 'sideboards' on my plate to keep the pile of food from falling off but I was really quite full even with a small plate of food. Many people were worried that I didn't get enough to eat – not the case at all!

After dinner Ginny conducted a short business meeting where plans were finalized for their Annual Christmas Party. Luckily Kathy and I got our Passports last year as, (if I remember right), the party will be held somewhere just south of the Quebec border. Well, maybe not that far north, but a survival kit and snowshoes were recommended. (LOL) With the business meeting adjourned it was time for the dessert table to be opened up. Name your poison and it was there, (except for mince pie?). Their homemade apple pies were a big hit. I had some cut up fruit – Mmmmm, good!

Before calling it a day Ginny had given everyone there a ticket for door prizes. Kathy and I were lucky enough

to have both our numbers drawn and we went home with a Friendship Bread and a beautiful still warm apple pie. All in all it was a wonderful afternoon spent with great friends.

Also, at this time I'd like to give a shout out to a good friend and fellow member of both our clubs, our favorite nonagenarian, *Jim Turner* who turned 97 years young on October 11<sup>th</sup> and is still terrorizing the roads in and around Hopkinton, NH driving his beautiful '61 Lakewood. We kid Jim because we love him. We all know Jim is an inspiration to the members of his local club, but he should be an inspiration to the entire 'Corvair Nation'. God willing, I hope to be there in 3 years when we gather to celebrate 'Gentleman' Jim's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. *God bless him!!*



**Jon Guinard tops off the 'Meet & Greet' with his Turkey topper.**



**Janis Cox, sporting a huge pair of oven mitts, made gravy, stuffing and mashed potatoes.**



**Ray Bombardier chats it up with "Gentleman" Jim Turner.**

# CLASSIFIEDS

## Cars

**1964 Monza Sedan.** I am selling my 1964 Monza Sedan. This is a great driver quality car that has been virtually bulletproof. 110 Powerglide. Car will come with new rear springs and shocks that I haven't had time to install. Asking \$7500 or best offer. Jason, jacesana1@verizon.net



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## Parts/Tools Wanted

Looking for four 14-inch tires and wheels to replace the stock 13 inch wheels on my late model. Please contact Jim @ 401-595-5597



**1965 Monza coupe.....**black interior/aqua interior/automatic transmission/radio, mileage is 56,875. The paint is new as are the tires, engine was totally reworked recently. Car has been garaged in New Hampshire. For more details or questions Clint Robins 603-964-2956.

Three **1965-6 Corvairs.** Two are 110 HP, one automatic, one four-speed, one 140 HP. Two are complete cars, one has the interior missing. Asking \$500 for each. Cars are located in Westerly, RI. Tony—401-596-3676.



# DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1 HAPPY BIRTHDAY!</b> Ron Muise	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5 HAPPY BIRTHDAY!</b> Ed Soares
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8 HAPPY BIRTHDAY!</b> Carol Quinlan	<b>9 HAPPY BIRTHDAY!</b> Elaine Sedani Alice Kropa	<b>10 HAPPY BIRTHDAY!</b> Steve Vancour	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20 HAPPY BIRTHDAY!</b> CAROL PETERSON	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26 HAPPY BIRTHDAY!</b> Ed Morse
<b>27 HAPPY BIRTHDAY!</b> Rick Clark	<b>28 HAPPY BIRTHDAY!</b> Amy Doar	<b>29</b>	<b>30 DON'T FORGET TO MAKE HOLIDAY PARTY RESERVATIONS!</b>	<b>31 HAPPY BIRTHDAY!</b> Karl Haakonsen		

Wear it.... Carry it.... Hug it....

ORDER NOW! 12/20 is the deadline for delivery by Christmas and Take advantage of the holiday season free shipping offer!



Corvair Shirts  
\$85.00 - \$95.00



Show Season Large Tote Bag  
\$45.00



Corvair Pillows  
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\$30.00



"Tail Fins and Wagons" Bag  
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# **Bay State Corvair Club Calendar of Events**

If you attend nothing else this year, please make an effort to come to a bold printed event and support the club!

- December.....No Monthly Meeting! Enjoy the holidays! Work on your Corvair for next season!
- Saturday, January 9.....Annual Holiday Party at the Chateau Restaurant, 48 Bay Rd., Norton 12-5PM
- Sunday, May 1.....Annual Spring Brunch at Rafael's Banquet Hall 10:30-2:30
- July 12-16.....2016 CORSA International Convention—Springfield, IL

**STAY TUNED FOR NEXT YEAR'S EVENT LISTING!**

