



NVCC, CORSA Chapter 220

Chapter Chatter
By Rory Clark

This month's meeting was held at Fred Marx's custom built Corvair garage. Fred is restoring a Spyder convertible. The project at hand was to connect the dashboard and install the heater hoses.

Fred's garage was abuzz with activity when Rita and I arrived. Greg and Fred were installing Dynamat under the rear seat area. Fred wanted to make sure the plastic heater boxes would fit properly with the sound proofing, which they did. Luckily, Fred had the instructions at hand on how to lay Dynamat but not before Greg sliced a finger (not shown ☺).



Prior to that, the gang tested and repaired a speedometer and a few other gauges. Some of the gauges may not be functioning correctly so if you have some Spyder gauges Fred may want to talk to you.

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The Northern Virginia Corvair Club (NVCC) publishes the HOT AIR MAIL newsletter monthly as a service to its members. NVCC is a non-profit chapter of the Corvair Society of America (CORSA). The \$10 annual dues are payable January 1st, to "Treasurer, NVCC" at the address herein. A prorated amount of \$5 is accepted for periods of less than six months. All other correspondence and submissions can be addressed to the Secretary/Editor. Newsletter expiration date is three months beyond dues anniversary if they are not current. Original material appearing in the HOT AIR MAIL may be reprinted in other non-profit publications with appropriate credits.



We tested the wiring harness in the dashboard to ensure lights, wipers, cigarette lighter, horn, etc. worked or had power to them. Although we accomplished a few of the tasks, I suspect we will be having another tech session at Fred's house in the near future.

We also had a new member attend the meeting. Ron Mills has 64 convertible that he is restoring. He is having a few issues with the trans/diff/clutch so he might be reaching out to the group for information and assistance. Please welcome Ron into the group.



Articles of Interest

Continuing with the monthly series, the article below is the third in the series. I ran across this article from the December 24, 2015 edition of Autoweek - [Economy, Excitement and WHAT!](#)

There is mention of a Sidewinder rocket of all things.

The article starts off in 1960 defining how US automakers came up with an economy car. It was basically a full-size car that was shrunken to fit on a 100-inch chassis. Several examples

are given and the theme was consistent between the major players – front engine with a solid rear axle. However, the Corvair was completely different bucking the conventional approach of car design.

The Corvair was the future as the American public had never seen. Besides being "thrifty", the two door only cost about \$2,000 in 1960, it was the ultimate economy car. It was quite the design departure with its innovative unibody construction, air-cooled rear engine, and swing-axle suspension.

One of the design aspects for the rear engine was to eliminate the transmission hump that was all so familiar in nearly every car and truck up to that point. The flat pan design really opened up the interior. I personally love the flat floor pan. It exudes roominess and an unobstructed interior.

The article weaves in and out of the highlights of the Corvair as well as some of the perceived negative aspects of our cars. It also does a good job of pointing out several other cars of that era sporting the swing axle design. But we all know this story line and how Chevrolet resolved the issue in 1964 and, in 1965, how the rear end was redesigned to IRS.

It's a short but good read. Enjoy!

As an added bonus, check out this Corvair restoration over on Jalopnik - <https://jalopnik.com/im-fixing-up-this-chevy-corvair-and-making-up-its-racin-1822642947>

It is a multipart series that will take the read through the acquisition and restoration of his 1966 Corsa.

The Tool Addict by Bryan Blackwell

Bryan was busy working on the lower windshield panel/channel replacement so there won't be a tool article this month. He has promised, sort of, to submit an article next month.

In lieu of a tool article he forwarded me a video of him detailing the steps he is taking to install the channel - [Windshield Channel by Bryan Blackwell](#).

Local Car Shows and Cruises

Soon, the weather will be turning from winter into spring. That means we will be out and about more. In order to market the Corvair marque beyond only attending the major Corvair shows, I would like to propose attending more local, smaller shows. The shows and cruises would be in addition to our monthly tech sessions. The group did the Cars & Coffee in Great Falls last year and that was a huge success. We all know that Corvair's are people magnets. For the most part, all the comments, conversations and questions are positive and encouraging.

Below is a shot of our Corvair when we first bought it 2 ½ years ago. I remember when the transport company dropped it off. Actually, they asked me to unload the car, which was a little intimidating. Right after I pulled it into our driveway two older gentlemen walked by. They stopped to talk about the car. For the next 15 minutes they relived their youth by telling stories about their Corvair or a friend's car. It was exciting to hear their stories while anxiously looking forward to making our own. While the look of our car has changed since that day the attention it attracts is still amazing.

When you are out cruising take a picture of your Corvair and send it to me. I will include it in the newsletter.



The Donut aka Cars & Coffee
Burtonsville Town Square
15650 Old Columbia Pike
Burtonsville, MD 20866
Every Sunday

28th Annual Orphan Car Tour
Hartford and Baltimore Counties
June 2, 2018
www.orphancartour.org

61st Annual Historic Fredericksburg Region AACA
June 2, 2018
<http://www.hfraaca.org/index.html>

CORSA International Corvair Convention
Pittsburg, PA
July 23rd – 28th, 2018
[CORSA Convention](http://www.corconvention.com)

Cars and Parts for Sale/Wanted

14" Rallye wheels from a 72 old's. Goodyear radial GT 195-65/R14. Maybe 5k on the tires if that. Painted to match my Aztec Bronze convertible with chrome beauty rings and a few spare rings for the holes.
Brand new 13" spare tire on correct spare wheel.

140 air cleaner

Near perfect oil pan

Corsa glove box door and surround

Complete set of front brakes including hoses, shoes, drums, clips, and springs. One wheel cylinder may need rebuilt but everything else is great shape. Maybe 8k on the set up from rebuild.

110 distributor with new cap, rotor, points, and condenser. Great shape

140 throttle linkage

Transmission pivot

**Lower shroud for an EM, think it is the right side. No thers but in great shape.

Items needed:

U joint cap clip, just one. (Had an oops with the kid the other night)

Brake line from the left side T to the right wheel flex line. About 4 feet long across the back firewall.

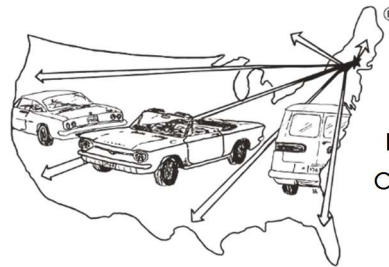
Contact Brian Brooksby at 5713427122 or brianbrooksby@yahoo.com

I (Rory) need the little metal trim piece that goes on the lower middle of the interior rear window. The piece covers the two ends of the side and bottom window trim. Contact me at roryinmd@gmail.com if you have this elusive piece of trim. Clark's does not sell it.

Corvair Vendors and Services

Clark's Corvair Parts®

Our catalog lists over 15,000 parts for your Corvair. engine parts, body panels, upholstery and much are 1,000's of reproduced items available, pages information and lots of other helpful hints.



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Check us out at www.corvair.com or call today to order a copy of our printed catalog. You will quickly see why we are the world's largest supplier of parts and all your other Corvair needs. Clark's - More than Parts!

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400 Mohawk Trail, Shelburne Falls, MA 01370

(413)625-9776

Email: clarks@corvair.com

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PO Box 339 Dundee, OR 97115, (503) 434-1648 or (800) 825-VAIR

Corvair Ranch, Inc.

1079 Bon-Ox Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325, (717) 624-2805, www.corvairranch.com

Email: corvairranchinc@earthlink.net

Original Parts Group, INC. - Coming in May

<https://www.opgi.com/restoration-parts-catalog-corvair.asp>

2018 Meeting Schedule

All meetings begin at 9AM

March 17th

Al Harris
7900 Carrie Lane
Manassas, VA 22193

TASK – Diagnose and repair Greg's brakes. They are pulling when applied.

April 21st

Doug Jones
5176 Woodfield Drive
Centreville, VA 20120

TASK - ?

May 18-20th

CVCC - 39th Annual VairFair
Winchester, VA
centralvirginiacorvairclub/vair-fair
[VairFair Registration Form](#)

June 16th

Rory and Rita

TASK – to be determined

July 21st

CORSA Convention
Pittsburgh, PA

August 18th

OPEN

Treasurers Report

Balance 12/31/17	\$2714.05
Dues Received	\$140.00
Balance 2/28/18	\$2854.05

For Pictures of last month's meeting click here [NVCC Facebook](#)

Spring Tips

Winter is almost over so we will be bringing our cars out of storage soon.

Check out the tips below on how to prepare your car for Spring and beyond.

Do a thorough visual inspection by checking your:

Lights

Wipers

Belts

Brakes, including the brake test

Tires, including the proper front/rear air pressure

Wiring

Battery

Fluids, including brake fluid and motor oil

It is also a good idea to wash and wax your car and clean the interior.

PSA - I wish that I thought of this sooner prior to replacing the manifold donuts. Now that they have been replaced I put a CO monitor in our car to assure us that we do not have an exhaust leak in the cab. This is just as important in the warmer months as exhaust can still work its way into the cab without you realizing it. By the time that headache hits you already have been exposed to too much carbon monoxide.

Once you give your Corvair a once over it's time to take it out for a good long spin to get everything up to operating temperature. Enjoy the drive.

Remember, we are responsible for keeping this marque alive and viable for future generations. We still have the most affordable classic 60's cars in existence but we as a club need to be a part of promoting the Corvair as a really unique and cool collectable car. Drive em, fix em and promote them everywhere you go.