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CIRCLE CITY CORVAIRS

February 2024

Indianapolis, Indiana

Volume 50, Issue 2

# Years VALVE CLATTER

After meeting, we went to Mi Abuelito Mexican Restaurant for lunch after the meeting



# The President Speaks

Hello fellow Corvair Club members.

This month is a great time to get taxes in order along with our cars. Personally, I have scheduled some cosmetic eye lid and brow lift surgery on March 8 in



hopes of better reading ability and less eye fatigue. I am sure you or someone you know has had this procedure and just to let you know I don't like looking at other people's scars etc. (or my own for that matter) so if I'm not at the March 16th. meeting that is why. VP Todd Stires may be in the BIG chair doing a very capable job during that time. The weather has treated us well for the most part and believe it or not the sun will come out to raise spirits. I am excited to see what the World of Wheels will bring in March this year as there are always new entries to view. Be sure to come out and support our club, bring a lawn chair and set in the display for a while to meet some car folks. There are also vendors where you can purchase tools and other products that you don't need. Be sure to read Todd's article about upcoming events. Looking forward to seeing everyone 2-17-24 Saturday 10 am at Hubler.

Pres. Dave

## From Your Vee Pea.....by Todd Stires

As I ponder what to write about this early February day, I am reminded that Groundhog Day & Valentine's Day have passed but we have been blessed with a stretch of mild weather days that may have allowed the Corvair's to be pulled out of hibernation and sent on a short cruise of the neighborhood! Watch out for your car's shadow but more importantly, watch out for those pot-holes!



More things to watch for and participate in the next few months will be our regular meeting at Hubler Chevrolet on Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> @ 10 am. Please bring a "Show & Tell" item to share during an extended Tech Talk. It can be car related or not, something you are selling or something you collect or made. Meeting to be followed by lunch at a new place - The Distinguished Wien in Mooresville!

In March plan to attend the Indy World of Wheels at the IN State Fairgrounds. Circle City Corvairs is prepared to present a booth with four of our member's cars on display March 22 - 24<sup>th</sup>. \$20 tickets available at O'Reilly Auto Parts.

We will have our regular club meeting on March 16<sup>th</sup> @ Hubler Chevrolet.

Then on April 20<sup>th</sup> plan to attend the club's CORSA Birthday Party! This event will kick-off CCC's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and will again be at Scamahorn Park in Pittsboro.

As a club fundraiser, an auction will be held of member donated items! So begin to gather up those items and bring your wallets to this grand celebration!

That's a wrap for now - see you at Hubler on the 17<sup>th</sup> !!

*Valve Clatter* is the monthly newsletter of the Circle City Corvairs, a Chapter of the Corvair Society of America (CORSA). We welcome story ideas and articles for publication. Advertisements for cars and car parts, either wanted or for sale, are free. Send information to newsletter editor Tom Miller.

### 2024 Club Officers

President: Dave Beck  
Vice President: Todd Stires  
Secretary: John Shull  
Treasurer: Rod Lasley  
Activity Coordinator: Ron and Anita Bunten  
Directors: Dan Brizendine  
Dale Smiley  
Carlton Smith  
Newsletter: Tom Miller  
Technical Advisors: Paul Fox  
Dan Brizendine  
Web Master: Rod Lasley

Visit our web site: <http://www.circlecitycorvairs.org>

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Ph: 317-862-3550  
Ph. 317-742-7643  
Ph. 317-697-0318  
Ph. 317-504-4624  
Ph. 317-605-0724  
Ph. 317 862-3550  
Ph. 317-294-2871

## 2023 Club Service Directory

**Corvair Repair Work** Carry-in component rebuilding. Some NOS and used parts.

Dan Brizendine 317-862-3550 [debrizo@comcast.net](mailto:debrizo@comcast.net)

**Corvair Repair Work** Mike McKeel 765-358-3930

**Corvair Repair Work and Parts** Paul Fox 317-847-7913

**Printing Services, Embroidery, Screen Printing** KC Designs Karl Clark  
812-876-4020

### Circle City Corvair Club Board Meeting Minutes 1/02/2024

6:05pm to 7:15pm at Carlton's Shop

Dave Beck presiding, John Shull recording minutes.

Board Attendance: John Shull, Tom Miller, Dave Beck, Rod Lasley, Todd Stires, Carlton Smith, Dan Brizendine, Dale Smiley, Jan Bradley

Treasurer's report – month of December \$6251.31 to \$5319.00

Started 2023 with \$7129.76

25-30 non renewals left so far

Newsletter Update – Tom

No new updates

Activities

Looking at a Mexican restaurant for January club meeting

Distinguished Wein for February meeting lunch

Looking into other venues for future meetings

Dave's tech session may be moved to June

March lunch location un-decided

April – Corsa birthday party

May – Paramount Theatre for meeting location

June – Dave's house for tech session

July – DACC and convention, will not have a meeting

Rod looked up a list of long-time members to contact for anniversary in April

Todd looked into custom rulers for the anniversary year

500 piece minimum at about 57 cents each

For double sided rulers, total amount is about \$400 for 500 rulers

Discussed design options with wording and line art

Will look into more pricing options and discuss at next meeting

Carlton brought pricing and design options that he found for the banner and feathers

DACC and convention planning

Convention goes from Monday July 22<sup>nd</sup> to Thursday July 25<sup>th</sup>

Hotel is about \$165 per night with taxes and fees

DACC is July 11-14 in Ann Arbor MI

Meeting Adjourned

# Preventive Maintenance Series

By Mike Dawson

## Pitman Arm Bushings

All cars of all years have one but FC vehicles do not; it is a pivot point where the steering box pitman arm is attached to the center link. It is comprised of a sleeve which contains a rubber bushing and an attaching bolt with a tapered end to force a pressed fit onto the pitman arm when the nut is tightened. The bushing assembly is also a press fit into the center link attaching hole. Along with being an attachment point, the bushing also helps prevent road shock from being transmitted into the steering box and when still in good condition it will add a small amount of "back to center" assist when you complete a turn. When the rubber section wears out, play in the steering wheel is the result.



The simple way to evaluate a bushing is to visually inspect that area (car on the ground) while your assistant takes up the play in the steering wheel, being careful not to overdo the wheel wiggle. Watch the bolt in the bushing and see if it moves in the rubber; any movement would mean replacement is necessary. At the same time, watch where the pitman arm itself is turning in the bronze bushing at the bottom of the box. If the box itself needs adjustment you will see the pitman arm move back and forth in the bronze bushing a small amount instead of actually turning. If that is the case and adjustment does not cure the excess play, then the bronze bushing may need replacement.



Closeup of sleeve removal tool



On the left is an old bushing that has been removed. In the center is a new bushing with a home made pusher. On the right is an air hammer tool for removing the sleeve from the center link.



The pressed in sleeve has been removed with the center link still attached to the tie rods



The new bushing can be pressed in, however it works for you. I use a C-clamp with the homemade pusher mentioned above. The most important part of the bushing replacement operation is the correct installation of the new bushing bolt back into the pitman arm. First re-attach the idler arm to the center link and then line up the wheels so that they are perfectly straight ahead. Insert the bolt into the pitman arm, screw on the nut and tighten with an end wrench while keeping the wheels straight ahead. If you fail to have the wheels straight ahead you will have stiff steering to one side and no return on the other side as the rubber destroys itself. With both nuts tight and cotter pins inserted, you are ready to check the steering gear adjustment and enjoy tight steering.

One last note: Over the years I have replaced a lot of aftermarket plastic bushings that seized up on the bolt and put stress on the steering box as they resisted turning. Add that to the road shock that is transmitted into the box (without the rubber) plus a lack of any return to center assist, and I give a thumbs-down to plastic bushings. Their only selling point is ease of installation.

# Notes and news

Saturday February 17th	Regular meeting at Hubler Chevrolet, lunch will be at "The Distinguished Wein" in Mooresville
Saturday March 16th	Regular meeting at Hubler Chevrolet, lunch location to be announced
Saturday April 20th	Meeting will be held at Pittsboro at the Shelter house in Scamahorn Park. This will be a pitch in lunch and auction. More information will be available later. This event is the start to the club driving season.
Saturday May 18th	Regular meeting at Hubler Chevrolet, Then we will take a road trip to Cammack station in Muncie for lunch!! Great place!!!!
Saturday June 15th	A tune up Day at the Dave Beck Barn in Brownsburg. The club will provide the pizza and drinks
Saturday July 20th	Regular meeting at Hubler Chevrolet with lunch at Grays Cafeteria

## FOR SALE

A towbar for a Corvair



An engine stand that will fit a Corvair engine.

If you are interested in any of these three items, contact Ken Clark at [alveraken@gmail.com](mailto:alveraken@gmail.com)

A trailer hitch for a Corvair



## For Sale:

\$300. for dual exhaust

\$100. for single exhaust

Mark Syoen 317-749-3779

## For Sale:

Rebuilt Corvair fuel pumps - \$60 with exchange pump . Dan Brizendine, [debrizo@comcast.net](mailto:debrizo@comcast.net) 317-615-9237



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*Time to pay your yearly dues.*  
Your dues are now due. You should have received an email with a renewal form . Please attend to this matter sooner rather than later. Pay by check or paypal....  
Mail to:  
Circle City Corvair Club  
P O Box 17325  
Indpls. IN  
46217-0325