

# 50

CIRCLE CITY CORVAIRS June 2024

Indianapolis, Indiana

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# Years VALVE CLATTER

Another successful meeting and maintenance day for our club members. Six cars were examined, tested, repaired, and ogled, with much discussion, good food and great company. Next time you should come and join us at the maintenance shed and party barn



# The President Speaks

*From your Vee Pea.....by Todd Stires*

## Greetings Corvair Special People,

Certainly, we are a special group of hobbyists as you well know when you bring the subject up. Personally, I like being a little different but with almost two million Corvairs sold over the 10 years it is a topic that many people over a certain age have knowledge of and a story about. I usually ask if they or a family member had one and if that is not the case there are many stories of riding to school with a friend in a Corvair etc. I am surprised at the number of people who have said "Oh yeah the engine fell out of ours".

Actually, the engine in our Ultra Van did lose a rear engine mount with the previous owner, Paul Piche from Michigan. It was propped back up tied off and driven home as the story goes. All this brings me to our last meeting/tech session at our home in Brownsburg where your VP Todd Stires wisely replaced his rear mount with a new updated one and with the help of Tom Miller and others.

I think we looked at about 6 cars for various issues which kept Dan Brizendine and others busy. Thank you all for attending and all who helped in any way, if you didn't make it, you missed another good time, good pizza/wings and great weather. Judy, Gloria and Susan setup some great deserts and drinks, then there were Todd's famous "Corvair Cookies." "I have received several comments from neighbors and passersby who saw our cars and the activity.

Please read VP's article about the activities coming up this summer. The next 3 months are busy ones, and our schedule is a little different. Thank you for supporting our club and feel free to invite a friend to one of our meetings, it is always good to meet new people.

President  
Dave Beck

Hello fellow Circle City Corvair Club members! We are in a busy month of Corvair activities and wanted to take a minute to keep everyone up to date.



First reminder is that there is not an official club July monthly meeting at Hubler Chevrolet. Due to the various conventions and car shows throughout July, we thought it was best to cancel our monthly meeting.

So here is a short list of car shows & Corvair activities taking place in July and we hope to see you out there Corvairing!  
July 4<sup>th</sup> - Ray Skillman Ford Car Show 1250 U.S. 31 Greenwood 8 am to 2 pm

July 11-14<sup>th</sup> Detroit Area Corvair Club (DACC) Homecoming Event, Wyndham Gardens Hotel, Ann Arbor, MI

July 16-20<sup>th</sup> Ultra Van National Rally, Greenville OH

July 20<sup>th</sup> Pendleton Kiwanis Kar Show @ Falls Park, Pendleton 8 am to 4 pm

\*Show is coordinated by CCC Member John Shull and in recognition of our club's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary the Corvair is the "featured" car! All CCC members are encouraged to attend with your Corvair & support a great cause!

July 22-25<sup>th</sup> 2024 CORSA International Convention, Dayton, OH

There will be the regular CCC General Meeting on August 17<sup>th</sup> @ Hubler Chevrolet 10 am. Please join us then a lunch cruise is planned to Perillo's Pizza in North Salem, IN

Happy Corvairing!

## 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

## Club Events and Activities

Thur, to Sat July 11th–14th	DACC Homecoming in Ann Arbor Michigan, Wyndham Garden Inn
Saturday July 20th	<b>Regular meeting at Hubler Chevrolet has been cancelled. The club will be attending the Kiwanas car show in Pendleton, Indiana</b>
Saturday July 20th	Pendelton Car show, Falls Park, Corvair is featured car. Plan to attend
July 22nd–25th	National Convention in Dayton Ohio, Host hotel is Marriott @University of Dayton
Saturday August 17th	General meeting at Hubler Chevrolet then lunch at Perillos Pizza in North Salem with desserts at Rod Lasley's home
Monday September 2nd	Labor day picnic at Southeastway Park on far east side of Indy

*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

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

President:	Dave Beck	Ph. 317-409-5682
Vice President:	Todd Stires	Ph. 317-205-5900
Secretary:	John Shull	Ph. 765-620-4615
Treasurer:	Rod Lasley	Ph. 317-294-2871
Activity Coordinator:	Ron and Anita Bunten	Ph. 317-590-2056
Directors:	Dan Brizendine	Ph. 317-862-3550
	Dale Smiley	Ph. 317-742-7643
	Carlton Smith	Ph. 317-697-0318
Newsletter:	Tom Miller	Ph. 317-504-4624
Technical Advisors:	Paul Fox	Ph. 317-605-0724
	Dan Brizendine	Ph. 317 862-3550
Web Master:	Rod Lasley	Ph. 317-294-2871

# Preventive Maintenance Series

By Mike Dawson

## Gas Gauge Diagnosis Revisited

Gas gauges for early models, late models and FC vehicles all operate essentially the same; they vary only in the resistances involved. A 12 volt power supply is provided to one side of the dashboard meter and a variable resistance to ground is provided by the in-tank rheostat to the other side of the meter. This varies the magnetism that locates the gauge needle. Use of a quality ohm meter would be a very useful tool; a cheap unit will not read accurately in the range you need, which is 0-100 ohms. The early model and FC units are a 0-30 ohm resistance and the late model units are 0-90 ohms.

Note: there can be a variance of a few ohms when checking sending units, including new ones.



### Quick Check

With the key on, you can check your dashboard meter movement by removing the output wire at the tank; your meter should read over full (On FC models you would have to cut the wire coming from the tank since you cannot reach the connector). Ground that wire and your meter should read empty. Keep in mind that late model dash boards can lose their ground either at the screw attachment or at any of the ground strap connections behind the dash. The dashboard meter will read overfull if you loose the dash ground.

After performing the quick check test which confirms that your dashboard meter works properly, the following information may be useful.

The majority of the problems will come from one of the following: a missing ground between the tank's sending unit and the body, a float that has sunk, or a bad rheostat or wire on the tank sending unit. There are several tests that can help you determine where the problem is before you start replacing parts. If your dashboard meter reads overfull, the dashboard ground is good and the dashboard meter passed the quick check: There is an open circuit between the dashboard meter and the sending unit, an open in the sending unit itself, or between the sending unit and a good ground.

**1.** To check the sending unit you would disconnect the wire on the tank sending unit (FC's require cutting the wire unless you pull the tank) and check the resistance between the stud on the sending unit and the sending unit flange. Your ohm meter should indicate some resistance on the 0-100 scale depending on early or late. If not, then the open is in the sending unit rheostat or the in-tank connection. You might be able to repair the problem but replacing the sending unit, float, pickup filter and seal would be the permanent solution. Stainless steel units are now available.

**2.** If you register the correct resistance at the tank, then next check the ground for the tank. The ground wire must have a good connection where it is attached to the body. If the ground and the wire are good, then you must have an open in the wire from the tank's sending unit to the dashboard meter. The quick check above would have shown this when you grounded the wire at the tank - the gauge unit would not have moved. If you have another sending unit available, hook it up by using a long jumper wire connected to the sending unit wire you have pulled off. With the key on, ground the unit and move the float to observe your meter movement. If the dashboard meter reads empty all the time and the meter passed the quick check, then proceed to the following possibilities:

**1.** The float has a hole in it and has sunk to the bottom. Attach your ohm meter to the output stud at the sending unit and to ground. You would read either 0 or only a few ohms, confirming the float is on the bottom.

**2.** The wire from the sending unit to the dashboard meter is grounded. It could have a screw grounding it or the insulation scraped off around the tunnel pan area or if it is an FC the wire may be pinched between the tank and the body.

**3.** The insulation on the sending unit strap that connects the rheostat to the output stud has rotted away and is grounding at one end or the other where the strap can touch.

## Gas Gauge Diagnosis Revisited, continued

Other possible causes of erroneous meter readings; I have experienced all of these:

The wrong year sending unit has been installed

The bottom of the tank has been attacked by a floor jack.

A rusty tank has had a liquid liner applied inside without proper cleaning. The liner came off and is under the float like a wadded up newspaper.

It is not uncommon to find that those before you have altered wiring for some modification or repaired wiring with non-soldered connections that corroded.

One final note: Before installing a replacement sending unit, use a long jumper and a ground to remotely move the float up and down while observing the dashboard meter. You can adjust the arm movement slightly to get closer to the full or empty mark if necessary.

### For Sale

"Donut Spare" \$20 OBO Never used  
Goodyear tire T115/70D14  
From a Chevy Cavalier with lug pattern 5 x 4.0 ??, **won't fit a Corvair**  
13" Steel Wheels \$10 each 5 x 4.75 lug pattern  
Contact Todd Stires  
317-205-5900



### For Sale

I have one each of these Assembly Manuals: 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, ~~1966~~ and 1965 Van Assembly Manual. They are available for a \$10 donation (each) to the Club treasury. These are reprints in a loose-leaf binder. If you want one or more, text me or leave a message at (317) 502-4534. I'll bring them to a meeting (no mailing). Jean

### For Sale:

\$300. for dual exhaust

\$100. for single exhaust

Mark Syoen 317-749-3779

### For Sale:

61 coupe EZ eye (factory tinted glass) good condition- \$150 includes all glass except the windshield. One bumper mount trailer hitch for sale \$25

Dave Beck 317-409-5682



P.O. Box 17325 Indianapolis, IN 46217-0325



IN MEMORY OF NEAL SHULL  
*July 20, 2024 / Falls Park, Pendleton, Indiana*  
 RAIN OR SHINE... THE SHOW WILL BE BY THE COMMUNITY BUILDING AGAIN THIS YEAR WITH PLENTY OF SHADE!!

**Registration: \$15.00** Community Hospital Anderson

DAY OF SHOW REGISTRATION: 8:00AM - 10:00AM  
 JUDGING STARTS AT 12:00AM / AWARDS STARTING AT 3:00PM

CLASSES INCLUDE:

- BEST OF SHOW | PEOPLE'S CHOICE | TOP 20 | BEST GM | BEST FORD | BEST MOPAR | BEST HOT ROD | BEST RAT ROD
- BEST TRUCK - SUV 2WD | BEST TRUCK - SUV 4X4 | BEST CORVAIR | BEST IMPORT PRE-1980 | BEST IMPORT 1980-2000
- BEST IMPORT 2000+ | BEST DOMESTIC PRE-1940 | BEST DOMESTIC 1940-1959 | BEST DOMESTIC 1960-1979
- BEST DOMESTIC 1980-1999 | BEST DOMESTIC 2000+ | BEST MOTORCYCLE | BEST ENGINE | BEST INTERIOR | BEST PAINT

LIVE DJ, DOOR PRIZES, KIWANIS "K" BURGERS, MANY VENDORS, 50/50, GOODIE BAGS, DASH PLAQUES (for the first 100 participants). PLEASE COMPLETE AND DETACH THE BELOW FORM AND MAIL TO: PENDLETON KIWANIS, ATTN: JOHN SHULL, PO BOX 241, PENDLETON, IN 46064

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
 YEAR: \_\_\_\_\_ MAKE: \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL: \_\_\_\_\_ COLOR: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO PENDLETON KIWANIS CLUB. ENTRY FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE!!!  
 The undersigned desiring to enter and participate in the Annual Pendleton Kiwanis Car Show sponsored by Pendleton Kiwanis, does hereby tender his / her application. In consideration of this application, the undersigned does hereby: (1) Release the city of Pendleton, Indiana, Falls Park, Kiwanis International, and all respective staff, volunteers and agents from any and all liability arising from the event. (2) Release all participating business facilities and participants from any and all liability from event. (3) Give permission to use photographs or information obtained prior too and at the event for publication, advertising and video filming of the event. (4) Agree to have vehicle liability insurance required by the state of Indiana.

I HAVE READ AND ACCEPTED THE ABOVE TERMS AND CONDITIONS-SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_  
 For more information, contact: Pendleton Kiwanis, Attn: John Shull, PO Box 242, Pendleton, IN 46064 | 765-620-4615 | jshull2012@yahoo.com

"Let the Fourth of July always be a reminder that here in this land, for the first time, it was decided that man is born with certain God-given rights; that government is only a convenience created and managed by the people, with no powers of its own except those voluntarily granted to it by the people.

We sometimes forget that great truth, and we never should."

- President Ronald Reagan

*Happy Independence Day*