

VAIR VIEWS

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*Merry
Christmas*
& **HAPPY NEW YEAR**

- 2023 Christmas Party
- Richard Boxdorfer
- Thanksgiving Day Parade
- The Cavagna Award
- Renewal Time
- Birthdays



Prez Says

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your help and participation throughout this year. You have been a big help to me and the Officers and the Club. We have a new core of Officers taking over for the new year and I am excited about that issue. Its time for new "blood" to move in and set a goal and continue on. We have a very good club, and we are active and alive. We need to keep moving forward, its in our best interest for sure. Sometimes the job as a club Officer is a bit of a task, sometimes thankless but that is how we strengthen each other and the club.

The Christmas Party was a great success thanks to those who coordinated, planned and prepared this event. It seems like everyone had a good time, lots of laughs, good food, and comradery. I am looking forward to the next one. Thanks to Ron Karl for keeping us informed with the newsletter, lots of hard work here, behind the scenes. We have a very good newsletter. Look around and compare it to others. Ours is informative, entertaining and in color. We now have a new editor in place for the year to carry on the fine tradition that Ron has set.

I am sure Kent will lead us onward with some new ideas and leadership.. I think it is going to be a good year. Stay tuned. Lots of new stuff coming your way. And our new "clubhouse" at Underground.

John Carter has told us that it is nearly finished, we have our own meeting room, adequately adorned with Corvair "stuff". I am looking forward to our first meeting in the new room. We are a very fortunate club to have such dedicated, and motivated members. Thank you John Carter. You are a credit to this organization. That being said, every member here has something to add to the club. Each of you has leadership qualities, technical savvy, etc. willingness to contribute, whatever.....that you can give to the club. Thanks to all of you for your input and contribution. I am thankful that we have such a classy group, close knit, and with the ability to work together we make a good club. We all are fortunate.

Keep those cars warm and dry, its cold outside. Spring will be here.....soon.

Bob

2023 Christmas Luncheon – by Kent Goddard

This year our Christmas luncheon was held on Saturday December 9th at Rich & Charlie's in Crestwood, in their private dining area. 34 people attended: 29 SMCC members and 5 members of the Cavagna family. The food was excellent again this year, with 3 entrees to choose from, plus salad, side dishes and cake for dessert. I can't imagine anyone leaving hungry!

Other highlights of the afternoon included awarding the first Cavagna Award to Trevor Monninger (see separate article), a fun rob-your-neighbor gift exchange and a brief business meeting where the slate of officers for 2024 was voted upon. The Cavagna family made a very generous \$250 contribution to the Club, to be used at the Club's discretion. We'll decide how to use these funds at our January meeting.

The feedback from everyone at the event was very positive, so I went ahead and reserved the private dining area for Saturday December 7, 2024 from noon to 4 pm. The reservation can be cancelled if the 2024 committee decides to do something different.

A big "Thank You" to the other members of the Christmas Luncheon Committee (Don Hemwall, Trevor Monninger and David Wilson) and to everyone who attended and helped make this a very special occasion!



The passing of one of our club members

Dateline: Bethalto, Illinois

Richard James Boxdorfer, 87, of Bethalto, passed away on Wednesday, December 27, 2023, at his residence.

He was born on December 29, 1935, in Perry County, Missouri, the son of Leonard and Minnie (Deimund) Boxdorfer. He married Ruth Phillips in Foristell, MO, on August 15, 1959. She survives.

Richard is a Veteran of the United States Army. He worked at Laclede (Alton) Steel Mill until his retirement. He enjoyed his collection of antique cars and attending car shows. Richard loved spending time with his friends and family.

Along with his wife, Ruth, he is survived by a daughter, Robbin (Dean) Reinacher of Alhambra; three brothers, Alvin (Mary Lou) Boxdorfer of Belleville, Thomas (Reva) Boxdorfer of Bethalto, and Oliver (Lynn) Boxdorfer of Steeleville, IL; a sister, Clara Hall of Nashville, IL; and many nieces and nephews.

Richard was preceded in death by his parents; two sons, Richard Boxdorfer, Jr. and Timothy Philip Boxdorfer; and his siblings, Hubert Boxdorfer, Marvin Boxdorfer, Ervin Boxdorfer, Judy Holmes, Dannie Boxdorfer, and Milford Boxdorfer.

Visitation will be held on Friday, January 5, 2024, from 5 to 7 pm at Elias, Kallal and Schaaf Funeral Home in Bethalto. Inurnment will be held at a later date at Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery in Perryville, MO.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to Hospice of Southern Illinois and/or the Meadowbrook Fire Department.

Online condolences and guest book may be found at www.elias-kallalandschaaf.com.



The above obituary is from the funeral home web site and the photos are from 2011 annual picnic at lake Yeager, IL and 2015 VP fair. The beauty queen was Miss Missouri Teen. Provided by Tom James.



His funeral is this Friday Jan 5th at the above address

On Friday, December 29, 2023 at 07:01:27 PM CST, Bob Bauer <robovair@sbcglobal.net> wrote:

I just received a phone call from Ruth Ann Boxdorfer, and she informed me that Richard has passed away Wednesday from unknown causes, he died at home.

Authorities are determining the cause of death [autopsy] and he will be laid out at the Elias, Kallal, Schaff Funeral Home 727 East Bethalto Rd In Bethalto on Friday between 4 PM and 7 PM

She seemed in fair spirits given the circumstances but she expressed the thought that she knew he was getting increasingly worse and her personal care of him had increased in the last few weeks.

Richard has been a member of this club for a very long time. If you can pay your respects, I am sure the family and Ruth Ann would appreciate it.

Bob B

2023 Ameren “Thanks-for-Giving” Day Parade by Tom James

Sunny skies, homemade cookies, and an early Christmas present were the highlights of this year's Ameren "Thanks-for-Giving" Day parade.

The weather was perfect for the parade, especially if you like temps in the 40's. Good thing Corvairs have good heaters, because everybody struggled to keep warm. Chris James baked a selection of homemade cookies and other goodies to curb the hunger of those who had skipped breakfast to be in the parade. And, John Carter picked this event to break the news that the permanent clubhouse for the Show-Me Corvair Club was nearly ready at the Jefferson Underground. John gave the parade unit a tour while Kristy prepared Thanksgiving dinner in their apartment. You can read about the new clubhouse and the accompanying workshop in another article. Merry Christmas!



Congratulations to Jack Holahan, who finished the parade this year in his replica of a 1961 "fire chief's car". Jack has the distinction of being the only member of the Show-Me Corvair Club who has signed up to represent the chapter in every major parade since 2015. Multiple mechanical failures didn't stop Jack from signing up for every parade year after year. This year's Thanksgiving Day parade was only the second time he had finished. Jack's wife joined him in the car in the middle of the parade. Maybe that's why his car survived to the end this year. You gotta love Jack Holahan for his perseverance.

The Show-Me Corvair Club fielded three other cars in this year's parade, and all of them belonged to John Carter. Tom and Chris James crewed John's blue 1965 Corsa coupe. Mike Hall was behind the wheel of John's steel blue 1964 Monza convertible, and John himself took the controls of his red 1963 Spyder convertible.



The chilly weather made the crowd a little smaller than usual and a little more subdued, but they responded well to the Corvairs with



waves, smiles and sincere compliments. "Nice car!" Thumbs up. "That's what I'm talkin' about!" "Hey, mister, I like your car." Of course, there are always a few in the crowd. People were heard to say "Corsair" more than once, and one guy yelled, "Unsafe at any speed!" as the unit passed.

At least Kent Ehrhardt wasn't behind the mic for this event. Mr. Ehrhardt is the TV weatherman who covered the "America's Birthday Parade" for Channel 4. He commented inaccurately two years in a row that Corvairs had a tendency to catch fire.

The Show-Me Corvair Club gives thanks to John Carter, Mike Hall, Jack Holahan, and the Jameses for giving up sleep, sitting in the cold, burning up gasoline, and sacrificing time with their families to represent the chapter in the Thanksgiving Day parade!



The Cavagna Award

The first annual Cavagna Award is in the books and was a huge success. Our first attempt for the presentation was well received by all who were present.

Outgoing President Bob Bauer did a wonderful job reading the requirements for the eligibility to receive this award, after which he explained how and why this award had come about. Bob listed some of the contributions that John and Joan had given to the Show-Me Corvair Club and CORSA since they joined in 1979, including their time and expertise.

Bob then began naming the many ways that our recipient had earned this award. As Trevor Monninger listened, his face started to show astonishment that the things being said sounded pretty familiar. Finally, he heard his name being called as the recipient of the first Cavagna Award.

Trevor has helped our members by sharing his time and knowledge with anyone who asked. Trevor also has been a very active participant in CORSA annual conventions, promoting our club and the Corvair. Trevor has won numerous awards and accolades each year at CORSA conventions. This year, he won second place in the concours and took the "Gold Elevated to Senior" award by scoring 97.78 points with the 1963 Spyder convertible which he helped John to restore. Trevor uses his Corvairs as daily drivers and has probably put more miles on his Corvair each year than all of the rest of our members combined, except maybe John Carter, who drives from Tulsa, Oklahoma, and back.

Next, Bob read a copy of the recommendation that John and Joan had submitted to the Corvair Preservation Foundation a few years ago in Trevor's behalf to be considered for the Frank Winchell Memorial Scholarship that they offer to younger members. Trevor won the scholarship that he so deservedly earned.

President Bauer shared a few experiences that he had with our Cavagna award winner. He mentioned how much Trevor has impressed him with the speed and accuracy of detecting and fixing problems with Corvair engines and other mechanical issues. After all of the

deserving accolades, Trevor went up and accepted the first annual Cavagna Award.

Trevor along with his family have sponsored some of our tech sessions at their house. I probably have been the most fortunate member of the club, being not so mechanically inclined. At one of the tech sessions hosted by the Monninger's, Trevor had me bring my car a few days early. He let me drive his personal Monza convertible back to my house to keep in my garage, making room for my car in his garage. He worked on my car and then, the day of the tech session, he was instrumental in helping our many other gurus drop the engine and replace the main motor mounts and rear engine seal. He kept my car after the tech session and installed the rubber seal around the engine compartment and put larger jets in my carburetors. I think he did even more, but I do not know the technical terminology.



The recipient of the first Cavagna Award enjoyed a special relationship with John and Joan. Trevor was very supportive of the Cavagna's during their dedining years. He continued his dedication to the Cavagna family after Joan and John had passed by assisting the family during their bereavement.

John and Joan's children Debbie, Glen, and Suzanne, along with their spouses, attended as our special guests, making the event that much more special. Suzanne surprised and delighted us by offering her services as our next club Secretary. Her offer was graciously accepted, putting a big smile on Rose Bauer's face and a sigh of relief. Having Suzanne as our Secretary means that a precious part of John and Joan will be involved and appreciated by the Show Me Corvair Club.

Experiencing this presentation in person made me feel grateful for having been chosen, along with Tom James and Don Hemwall, to be on the committee to plan and instigate the birth of such a prestigious award, honoring two of our long time and dedicated members, John and Joan Cavagna. They will live long in the hearts and minds of anyone that was fortunate enough to have known them.

Tom Yengel



MEMBERSHIP

Membership Mentions – by Kent Goddard

Over the course of 2023 we gained (1) new member (Jim and Kim Koch) and lost (3) members (Jeff Wilsman, Bart Mantia and Gary Bond). Jeff had been a long-time member, whereas Bart and Gary had been members for only about a year. Hence, we had a net loss of two members in 2023, finishing the year with 53 members.

Looking back over rosters from the last 6 years that I've served as Membership Chairman, our membership count has varied from a low of 45 to a high of 60 members. The faces have changed, but the overall count most years has been a relatively stable 50-55 members.

As is often the case, after someone slides by having mediocre success in one role, they somehow manage to get promoted! Next year I'll assume the role of SMCC President and Trevor Monninger will take over the role of Membership Chairman.

It's been an honor and a pleasure to serve the Club as Membership Chairman for the last 6 years or so. Thank you to everyone who has helped support membership efforts through the years. Going forward, I'm confident that Trevor will bring new ideas and energy to the Membership position, and hopefully attract some additional "young blood" into our ranks.

Safe and Happy Motoring.



Bob Bauer	12-4
Richard Boxdorfer	12-29
Debbie Hailey	12-21
Mike Hall	12-8
Carla Leadford	12-13
Mark Moyer	12-30
Lawrence Pratt	12-19

**It's renewal
time again**

Show-Me Corvair Club Dues Renewal Form



Please make checks payable to: Show Me Corvair Club

Member Name _____

Spouse or 2nd Member's Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Member's Birthday _____ 2nd Member's Birthday _____

Wedding Anniversary _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email address _____

CORSA member(s)? YES NO

CORSA membership numbers _____

What type of Corvair do you have (or would like to have)?

Other hobbies or interests?

Would you be willing to host an event at your home, set up a tour or rally or set up events? YES _____ NO _____

New members please complete the form and circle the amount paid. If you are a current member please indicate any changes in your data, especially addresses, cell phone numbers and email addresses so that we have current information.

Thank you!

Pleas note: The 2024 dues will be \$30.00 per household (no difference between single or family)

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