

Vair Views

Official Publication of the Show Me Corvair Club #633 St. Louis, MO
January—February 2024 Vol. 53 No. 1



Greetings SMCC Members,

In January we held productive Board and General Meetings where we started making decisions about 2025 club activities. Many of the activities are repeats of “long time favorites”. But there’s always room for new ideas. For example, Doug Riser is hosting the February meeting at Old St. Ferdinand Shrine so we can tour the historically significant facilities after our meeting.

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Jim Koch’s Lakewood

This year I’d like to see some of our less-active members becoming more involved in our club. How? Regular meeting attendance to help make decisions (and enjoy the camaraderie). And/or attending the various car shows and drives, even if your Corvair isn’t currently up to the adventure (it’s still fun to be around a bunch of Corvairs and other classic cars). And/or volunteering to help coordinate just one activity this year (“Many hands make light work”).

For starters, please plan to attend the meeting on Saturday Feb 22nd at 10 am at Old St. Ferdinand Shrine to help finalize our list of 2025 activities.

See you soon,
Kent



A note from Bob and Rose Bauer about the 2024 Cavagna Award

Rose and I want to thank the membership and the nominating committee for their vote of confidence and rewarding us the Cavagna Award. We are honored. John and Joan were friends to us as well as the club as a whole. We are proud to be a part of their collective memory and their dedication to the club.



Bob and Rose Bauer

Rose and Bob in the center, flanked by Kent Goddard and Cavagna family members

The “Character-filled” Corvair Lakewood



In his August 2024 Hemmings.com article about the Corvair Lakewood wagon, Richard Lentinello describes the Lakewood as character-filled. He is clearly an admirer. Check the link below to read his short article accompanied by some nice photos.

[1961- '62 Chevrolet Corvair Lakewood | The Online Automotive Marketplace | Hemmings, The World's Largest Collector Car Marketplace](#)

And if you have some extra reading time, check out Lentinello's "Cargo-carrying Corvairs" article: www.hemmings.com/stories/cargo-carrying-corvairs/

The Corvair wagon was introduced in the 1961 model year as the Lakewood, in two levels of trim, 500 and 700. Only 5,591 500s were produced while 20,451 Lakewood deluxe 700 wagons were made. In 1962 the Lakewood name was dropped and 3,716 700 model wagons were built along with 2,361 wagons that bore the Monza moniker. Some still refer to all Corvair wagons as Lakewoods.

Obviously these wagons are among the rarest and most desirable of Corvairs and we are fortunate to have a club member who owns a beautiful black Lakewood wagon. Tune in next month to learn more about Jim Koch's Lakewood and how he came to be the owner. You'll like the adventure.

Member Profile - John Carter

He loves his Vairs, especially the Rampside.

John is the owner of Jefferson Underground which we fondly refer to as “The Underground”, and where we have the privilege of holding many of our monthly meetings. If you have not been to a meeting at The Underground you need to attend if only to check out the Corvair and other cool automobile memorabilia. The building opened in 1928 as Big 4 Chevrolet and has served several purposes since. The website is www.jeffersonunderground.com.



John and the Rampside in Green Bay, WI. Lots of room for clubs in that truck bed.

We asked John what Corvairs he owns and he almost ran out of space on the profile form. John completed his member profile back in October 2024 so this list may have grown. At the time he owned a 1963 Rampside, white with orange stripe, 140 hp, four-speed, as he calls it, a running driver. If you’ve seen this Rampy you know it is much nicer than a running driver. To join that Rampy he owns another 1963 that is in the body shop. There’s also a fully-restored 1963 Spyder convertible which John often uses as his daily driver although it has been down lately with engine repairs. Top those off with a restored 1964 Monza convertible 110 Powerglide car and a 1965 140 Corsa coupe which he also uses as a driver. John has had his Monza convertible since 1990 but picked up most of his other cars since the early 2000s.

We asked John what he likes most about Vairs and to tell us a Corvair story. John fondly remembers riding in the rear seat of the Corvair during cold weather as a small child because it was so warm back there, and being sad when he grew up and could no longer fit.



This Rampy is a working truck. Hauling a huge stump at Cavagna’s house. How did they get that stump in the bed? Up the ramp, I guess.



The rest of John’s stable of Corvairs.

Continued >>>

When he began driving he remembers losing two hubcaps and watching them roll off into the distance never to be found. We hope those weren't the special Spyder insert hubcaps.

John's dream Corvair is his Corsa coupe. Like many of us he likes the classic lines, four carbs and four speed, and the improved handling of the late models. He does admit to throwing a fanbelt (bound to happen with five Corvairs in your pen) and says the Corvair job he hates most is replacing the gas tank. (Editors note: how in the world did they do that job quickly on the assembly line?)



If he could own any other car John would stick with rear-engine vehicles and pick up a Porsche, perhaps a classic 911. He appreciates the handling and experience of driving these cars.

However, there is a non-Corvair, non-Porsche that John would love to have back. It's the 1957 Chevy four-door that he rode to Sunday School in. He says he felt good every time he got out of that car. Sounds like a good memory to us.

John hasn't owned many other classic cars. He says his Dad had many during the 1990s and struggled to get them to running and driving order so John decided to stay with the bulletproof Corvairs he was successful with. Come to the next meeting at "The Underground" and you can probably see some of John's cars in the old dealership building. And be sure to thank John for providing our meeting space.

SMCC Meeting and Event Schedule

Meeting: Saturday, Feb 22nd at 10 am at Old St. Ferdinand Shrine

In most cases a meeting will be held in conjunction with the above event.

Car Shows, Events, and Meetings—Courtesy of Ron Karl

All activities, including monthly meetings, are subject to postponement or cancellation

2025 Car Cruises

Every Fri. Apr -Oct ~ 1980& older~ 3889 Veterans Memorial Parkway O'Fallon, MO
Every Fri Apr - Sept ~ Sonic Restaurant, 1002 S. Kirkwood Rd. Kirkwood, MO
1st Fri Memories Car Club Cruise~ 4 to 9 pm~ 1979 & Older ~ 417-700103 Fenton, MO
@ Faith Church, Corner of Hwy 30 & Rahning Rd. ~
2nd Fri Hardy's Restaurant~ 2850 Lemay Ferry Rd. St. Louis, MO
2nd Fri April-Sept-Hotshots Bar-1239 S. Laclede Station Rd. 314-755-1550 Webster Groves, MO
2nd Sat. Rolla Cruise-In ~Big Lots Parking Lot, 1001 S Bishop~ 573-634-0865 Rolla, MO
2nd Sat Apr-Oct JJ's ~1215 S. Duchesne~ 636-946-3500~ St. Charles, MO
2nd Sat Apr-Oct~MO Moonshiners Cruise-in~Thriftway Parking Lot 5-8PM Linn, MO
2nd Sat Apr-Oct~Owensville Cruisers,meet @ Snowensville @4PM,573-999-7998 Owensville, MO
3rd Sat-May-Oct ~ (new)Cloverleaf Sports Bar- 6070 Telegraph Rd., 314-293-1815 Oakville, MO
3rd Sat-May-Sept Gearheads Cruise-in~ 5-9PM, downtown Ste Genevieve Ste. Genevieve, MO
4th Sun-Rides & Coffee~ Detail Garage, 70 Meramec Valley Plaza, 1-3, dogs & coffee Valley Park, MO
Last Sat- Apr-Oct ~ Bobby's Place- 5PM-9PM, 108 Meramec Valley Plaza, 141 & Marshall Valley Park, MO
Last Sat- Raisin' Canes, 5PM-9PM, DJ Don,1163 Jeffco Blvd ½ mi S of 141 Arnold, MO
Last Sat. JJ's ~ Apr-Aug.~ 200 Fort Zumwalt Sq. ~636-978-1737~ 10:30 am-3 pm O'Fallon, MO
Last Sat ~ Caffeine & Chrome ~Feb-Nov~Gateway Classics 1237 Central Park Dr O'Fallon, IL
Last Sat ~Capital Mall Cruise-in, 3-7 PM at Capital Mall (New time) Jefferson City, MO

2025 "Come Join Us"

1st Wed every month- 7 PM, First Capitol Classics Auto Club meeting, Sports Café,
3579 Pennridge Dr., Bridgeton, MO 63044 firstcapitolclassics@yahoo.com Bridgeton, MO
1st Thurs every month- 7 PM, Rt. 66 Car Club meeting, St. Clair Elks Lodge St. Clair, MO
35 E. North St. (Frontage on N. Commercial St.)
1st Thurs every month- 7 PM, Gateway GTO Assoc. meeting, Gingham's Restaurant St. Charles, MO
1566 Country Club Plaza Dr. St. Charles, MO 63303 chriswinslow@charter.net
1st Thurs every month- 7:30PM STL S/R Assoc. meeting, Location TBD Wildwood, MO
Barry Gan, 314-315-1712 or 636-244-0316 after 5. St.louisstreetrods@gmail.com
1st Thurs every month- 7PM,Rt 66 Corvette Club meeting,Old Hickory Golf Club St. Peters, MO
1st Sat every month-Cars-n-Coffee,Immanuel Lutheran Church,214 W.5th,8am-10amWashington,MO
2nd Tuesday every month-7PM, Archway Olds meeting, Sports Café, Bridgeton, MO
3579 Pennbridge Dr. Bridgeton archwayoldclub.org
2nd Tuesday every month-7PM, Original Corvette Club meeting, Dogwood Social House,
15682 Manchester Rd.63011 Ballwin, MO

2nd Sunday every month-5:30 PM, Gateway AMC, Bandanas, 11750 Gravois Sunset Hills, MO
3rd Fri most months~HCCM of STL, email perschgs3@gmail.com for time & place(Various STL location), MO
4th Thurs every month-6 PM, Mid-Mo Old Car Club, location varies ck midmooldcar.club Jefferson City, MO
4th Fri every month-7:30 PM VCCA(GMC also), WestCtyEMS, 223 Henry Ave,VCCA.ORG Manchester, MO

2025 Car Events

Feb 16- Cape Car, Truck, Tractor Swap Meet~Arena Park, 6:30-2:30 Cape Girardeau, MO

April 5-Chamber of Comm. MVP Display~(by invitation Rt. 66 Car Club only) Lost Hill St. Clair, MO

April 6- Rt 66 Car Club Spring Dust-off~ Elks Club lot, bar-b-que avail, free cruise-in St. Clair, MO

April 20-MCCM Easter Show~ Stock judged Car Show, upper Muny lot St Louis, MO

April 20-STL Street Rod Assoc~ StreetRod/Modified Easter Show, Family Arena lot St Charles, MO

May 10- Orphan Car Display~ Gateway Classics, 1237 Central Park Dr. 62269, free O'Fallon, IL

May 16-18-Heritage Park Car Show~\$30 B4 Apr. 15, 3 free meals, awards + \$\$\$ Piggott, AR

May 17-Wheels in Motion Charity Car Show~Church on the Rock, 900 Birdie Hills Rd St. Peters, MO

May 17-Annual Corvette Show~Reg 8-10AM, 8 Corvette Only classes, Poage Chevy Wentzville, MO

June 1- White Rose Café Cruz-in-25~ 12 PM, town square Union, MO

June 7-MO Rt 66 Festival~ Cruise-in and Rt 66 parade downtown Lebanon, MO

June 8-14-POCI Int'l Conv't.~ Louisville, KY

June 15- Rt 66 Car Club Fathersday Carshow~reg 8-noon, 29 classes, 314-795-4700 St. Clair, MO

June 28- Pacific Car Show~ drive-thru judging, Rt. 66 Car Club will assist judging Pacific, MO

July 20- Car Show- Owensville Threshers ~ 10-2:30 Rosebud, MO

Aug ??-SLICK Car Show-Harvester Lions Club, 4835 Central School Rd. St. Charles, MO

Aug 22-24- Auto Swap Meet~ Ozark Empire Fairgrounds Springfield, MO

Aug 22-23-Blue Oval Rally~ All Ford Gathering Herman, MO

Sept 6-Wheels in Motion Charity Car Show~Church on the Rock, 900 Birdie Hills Rd St. Peters, MO

Sept 14- HCCM Car Show & Swap Meet~ location TBD (TBD),

Sept 20-21- All Pontiac Show~ Courthouse Square at Pontiac Oakland Museum Pontiac, IL

Sept 20-Show-Me Regional Car Show~ Thompson Car Sales lot, reg 9-11, \$20 Springfield, MO

Sept 27-Mid- MO Old Car Roundup & Show~reg 8-10 AM, Broadway & Dunklin Jeff City, MO

Sept 28-Octoberfest Car Show~South Main Street, Stock only, Awards - 22 classes St. Charles, MO

Oct 4- K of C Car Show~ Immaculate Conception Church Columbia, IL

Got Parts?

If you have parts you want to sell or give away send a note to Mark Moyer at markgmoyer1@gmail.com and he will list the parts here.

For sale:

Two brand new still in the plastic wrap late model wiper arms. Clark's number C10947. I bought them for the Crown car and decided I didn't need them. \$29.25 each new, plus shipping. I'll sell them for \$22. Mark Moyer markgmoyer1@gmail.com

Parts needed:

- ♦ I need a driver quality day/night LM (1966) rearview mirror and a black or dark blue passenger side visor. Mark Moyer

SMCC Officers and Advisors

Officers & Board Members

President – Kent Goddard
Vice President – Ron Karl
Treasurer – Carl Briggs
Secretary – Suzanne Cavagna

Additional Board Members

Past President – Bob Bauer
Elected from general membership – Doug Riser and Larry Pratt

Advisors

Newsletter Editor – Mark Moyer
Historian – Tom James
Membership Chairman – Trevor Monninger
Facebook Page Manager – Nick Raeber



Stay Warm and start thinking of those Spring Corvair projects.

Brakes, interior, new tires, carb balancing, wash and wax, or ceramic coating.

Be ready! Cars and Coffee begins soon.