

# Corvair Chatter



## Meetings (4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays)

### Next meeting:

- Thursday, February 26, 2026
- 5:30pm Social / 7:00 pm Meeting
- Brookfields Restaurant  
4343 Madison Ave.,  
Sacramento, CA (at Highway 80)

## Membership Dues 2026:

Membership Dues of \$20 are due annually in January.

Venmo:



**Cash/Checks:** Send to Dean James  
Make checks payable to CCRC

Please contact CCRC Treasurer Jim Kindley for additional questions.

## Features

1. Message From the President
- 2-3. Latest CCRC News – Mtg Minutes
4. Information
- 5-7. Events & Activities
8. Article

## Board Members

<b>President</b> .....	John Heiser
<b>Vice President</b> .....	Chris Medeiros
<b>Secretary</b> .....	Laurie Daniels
<b>Membership / Web</b>	Dean James
<b>Treasurer</b> .....	Jim Kindley
<b>Sales &amp; Acquisition</b>	Wes Nicholas
<b>Newsletter Editor</b> ...	Laurie Daniels
<b>Historian/Photos</b> ....	Michael Nyberg

## Finding Us

[www.northern-california-corvairs.com](http://www.northern-california-corvairs.com)

Facebook; [Classic Corvairs of River City](#)

Instagram; [classiccovairs\\_rivercity](#)

(Maintained by: Dean James)



**WEBSITE QR CODE**

## Message From The CCRC President

Greetings fellow Club members and friends: Hope everyone is doing well and hope everyone is looking forward to this years Club activities, tours and events. Unfortunately, the February cruise was canceled on the 14<sup>th</sup>. The weather was being unpredictable that weekend. However, another tour is scheduled in March.

Let's hear it for our new club members, Ricky and Paula Alves. Thank you for joining CCRC!

Thank you Roy for donating the Shop manuals, gasket's and Viton O-Rings to the Club. The Shop manuals have been uploaded to the Club's website and the gaskets and O-Rings are available to Club members. Please inquire with Wes Nicholas.

I will briefly go over this years activities, events and tours at the club meeting on February 26th with Chris providing details on the events and tours. If you have suggestions for events and tours, please let us know.

We will discuss the upcoming Cal Expo Autorama, March thru May events and tours.

Cheers and see you at the club meeting on the 26th.

John



# Latest CCRC News

## Meeting Minutes: November 20, 2025

Meeting was called to order at 6:45 pm by President, John Heiser.

Minutes of meeting on January 22, 2026, as presented in the newsletter, were unanimously approved.

### **President's report** by President John Heiser:

- Christmas Party was a great success – the food was tasty and the system for ordering/serving this year was easy. The White Elephant game with 2 steals allowed was a lot of fun. Christie drove his Corvair – the only member to do so. Consensus is to plan party at Vince's again this year, and to recommend the restaurant to family and friends, maybe go there for a pop-up event or after a cruise.
- The Board held a meeting on January 19<sup>th</sup> as established a budget for club sponsored events of \$4,000. Chris Medeiros put together a monthly cruise/event schedule for the club to be described during the meeting.
- California Automobile Museum free passes are available for members.
- Club shirts and hats available for purchase at cost before and after the meeting from John Heiser.

### **Treasurer's report** by Jim Kindley for year end 2025.

**Sales and acquisitions report** by Wes Nicholas. CCRC website has inventory of parts for sale.

**Membership report** by Dean James: 19 members paid to date for 2026. Please pay dues ASAP.

### **Vice-President's report** by Chris Medeiros:

- Thanks to everyone who participated in cruises/events last year. We have a lot of fun planned for 2026.
- The website needs to be reviewed for additions and/or corrections. Christie noted that several of the links and/or hyperlinks in the classified section do not work. He also noted that the masthead features a Dodge van, and that needs to be changed.

### **New Activities and Events: See pages 5-7**

**Club elections:** Positions are open for anyone who is interested in joining the Board, and members are encouraged to contact the Board or speak up at the next meeting. Otherwise, current Board members are willing to continue serving for another 2 -year term. President is term limited to two 2-year terms.

# **Latest CCRC News (cont.)**

## **Ongoing events:**

- Sacramento Hollywood Park Auto Club-Classis Cars meets every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, 10:00 am at Leonardo Da Vinci School, 4701 Joaquin Wy, Sacramento.
- Carmichael Bel Air Sunday Cars N Coffee, meets every Sunday, 7:00 am to 10:00 am at 4005 Manzanita Ave., at the intersection of Fair Oaks Blvd. and Manzanita Ave., and near the corner of Cypress
- Folsom Cars and Coffee meets Saturdays from 7:00 am to 9:30 am, at the El Dorado Town Center, 2101 Vine St, El Dorado Hills, CA
- Red Bus Brewery hosts an air-cooled drive-in gathering on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm on Reading St. in Folsom, providing specials on beverages and pizza

## **Old Business:**

## **New Business:**

- John Hafkenschiel is looking for a '65 or later engine to clean up and have available for any club member who may need it.
- The Frenches have “unburied” their '63 Spyder and now have it in the carport – discovered a 20 year old time capsule of items in the front trunk.
- Roy has a '66 Corvair shop manual to contribute to the club. He has also donated gaskets and o-rings. He recommends lights available from Home Depot @ \$10 for a package of 3 that he has attached inside his trunk and engine compartment for extra illumination.

**Tech Presentation:** None

Meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm.

# Information

## Corvair Resources (Online)

Q&A - [www.corvaircenter.com](http://www.corvaircenter.com)  
[www.corvairforum.com](http://www.corvairforum.com)  
Parts - [www.corvair.com](http://www.corvair.com) (Clark's)  
[www.californiacorvairparts.com](http://www.californiacorvairparts.com)  
[www.mikescorvairparts.com](http://www.mikescorvairparts.com)  
[www.rockauto.com](http://www.rockauto.com)  
Sale - [www.jaxed.com](http://www.jaxed.com)  
[www.corvairtrader.com](http://www.corvairtrader.com) (Parts & Sales)

Resources –

<https://www.corvair.org/chapters/corvanatics>

Car Building – <http://autoexer.skiblack.com>

Fun-[www.youtube.com/user/davemotohead1](http://www.youtube.com/user/davemotohead1) /  
[www.deansgarage.com](http://www.deansgarage.com)

## CCRC CLUB MEMBER ASSISTANCE:

In order to get more cars on the road, the club leadership is offering assistance to members who have Corvairs that need help to get them running. This help will be in the form of technical expertise, mechanic labor, and possible financial assistance. If you have a Corvair that needs work, **contact the Corvair Club at [ClassicCorvairs@gmail.com](mailto:ClassicCorvairs@gmail.com)** and give details on what you require in the way of assistance.

**\*A committee will review the requests and select the best candidates. Remember the goal is to get more Corvairs at our club events. Those chosen will be expected to participate and help the club increase the number of cars that we put on display.**

## LET US HEAR FROM YOU:

**CORVAIR CHATTER Newsletter** - Members can write articles and send photos and articles they wish to have included in the newsletter. Email to Laurie Daniels at [lauriedanielsca@att.net](mailto:lauriedanielsca@att.net) or Wes Nicholas at [Nicholas.tds@gmail.com](mailto:Nicholas.tds@gmail.com)

**Club Activities** - You may have some great ideas for club activities. We want to hear them! Better yet, we'd like you to participate in the planning of your activity idea. Email your ideas to Chris Medeiros at [cmedeiros@mac.com](mailto:cmedeiros@mac.com).

**Club T-Shirts & Hats** - Members attending 2 meetings receive 2 shirts for free. T-shirts and hats are also for sale \$21/shirt (\$23/shirt tall sizes) (Henley shirts are \$29). Hats are \$16.

## CLASSIFIED – Corvair Parts for Sale



-or- Click Here: [CCRC - Classified \(northern-california-corvairs.com\)](http://CCRC - Classified (northern-california-corvairs.com))

## Welcome New Members

Ricky and Paula Alves

## Birthdays (Current & Upcoming)

### February Birthdays:

Jim Brown    Tav Byerhoff    Leo Scopes  
Tabitha Heiser    Beth Solheim    Carol Medeiros

### March Birthdays:

Nelson Black    Jim Kindley    Jon Von Kahle  
Melissa Francis    Kathy Lander    Linda Lewis

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# Events & Activities

## Current & Upcoming Events:

Full Calendar of Events available on <http://northern-california-corvairs.com>

2026 Activities scheduled by Chris Medeiros, Vice-President and Activities Guru see pages 6-7

## Ongoing Events:

**Sacramento Hollywood Park Auto Club -Classic Cars:** Meets every 3rd Sunday 10:00 am at Leonardo DaVinci School. CCRC Club Member started this gathering, so let's join in.

**Carmichael Bel Air Sunday Cars and Coffee.** 4005 Manzanita Avenue at the intersection of Fair Oaks Blvd and Manzanita Avenue near the corner of Cypress. Time: 7:30am to 10:00am.

**Folsom Cars and Coffee:** Saturdays -Town Center, El Dorado Hills. 7:00 am – 9:30 am.

**Red Bus Brewery:** Air-cooled drive-in gathering at Red Bus Brewery on Reading Street in Folsom –2nd Thursday of each month at 6pm. There will be specials on beverages and pizza.

**California Auto Museum:** See Jim Kindley-**FREE** tickets for members (1<sup>st</sup> come/1<sup>st</sup> serve-until gone).

## MEETING LOCATION:

BROOKFIELDS RESTAURANT  
4343 MADISON AVE.,  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95842  
(Madison Ave. & Highway 80)

5:30 pm Social/7:00 pm Meeting

# ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS FOR CCRC 2026

## (additional details to follow)

### FEBRUARY ( Canceled )

14 – CCRC Cruise – Valentine’s Day – Auburn, lunch with flowers/chocolates for the ladies

### MARCH

14 – CCRC Cruise – Folsom Lake Tour

### APRIL

11 – CCRC Cruise - Empire Mine – great time of year with flowers blooming, Christie will open his barn for the club, bring picnic lunch

18 – Vintage Races in Sonoma – FREE parking and racing. John Hafkenschiel and Ben French are planning to race!

### MAY

1-3 – CAL-EXPO AUTORAMA – 3 day commitment – cost is \$125 for registration; club will subsidize members \$75 per car, payable when leaving the show on Sunday. Registration deadline is April 23.

8 – Auburn Cruise nights begin for the season.

16 – CCRC Cruise – Delta River Tour. Last year cruise ended at Sugar Mill. Other options for dining are Foster’s Bighorn Restaurant in Rio Vista, or Pizza place near Sugar Mill.

### JUNE

6 – CCRC BBQ/PICNIC – need volunteers for planning committee

12 – Auburn Cruise Night

13-14 – Classic Car races at Laguna Seca – accommodations at hotels in Monterey area may be expensive, Monterey County campground on site

20 – CCRC Cruise – Cooper Winery – we enjoyed the tasting at the winery last year and wonder if we can bring food and have a picnic?

# ACTIVIES AND EVENTS FOR CCRC 2026 – CONT. (additional details to follow)

## JULY

TBD – California State Fair – CCRC Club Day

## AUGUST

15 – Auburn Cruise Night – meet at In/Out Burger, Rocklin

22 – CCRC Cruise - Cool Stop on Hot Night – evening at an ice cream shop

TBD – SFBA/Valley Picnic at the Quarry in Fremont

TBD – Vairs at The Vault – Napa – great food, wine and speakers

## SEPTEMBER

11 – Auburn Cruise Night – meet at In/Our Burger, Rocklin

12 – CCRC Cruise – Econo-Run

26 – Ironstone Concours d’Elegance at Murphys, CA – registrations to be sent to Chris Medeiros so all will be submitted together. Register as “judged” or “non-judged,” includes 2 lunch tickets, bottle of wine and 2 glasses. Benefit for local 4H Club.

## OCTOBER

17 – CCRC Cruise to Sutter Creek, to include a scavenger hunt.

TBD – Friday to Sunday – Great Western Fan Belt Toss & Swap Meet

## NOVEMBER

7 – CCRC Cruise to Care/Nursing Homes

28 – CCRC Cruise – Apple Hill Tour

## DECEMBER

6 – Christmas Dinner

AND ADDITIONAL POP-UP EVENTS on the spur of the moment by members – notify membership by email blast, and by putting the event on the website calendar!

# 10 Best Classic American Cars Ever

BY JON MORRIS

PUBLISHED 2 DAYS AGO

The American car industry owes a lot to these incredible classics.

For well over a century, the United States has been offering a vast plethora of automotive innovation and advancements, and sometimes, this extended far beyond the typical realm of what you find in classic cars. Although these developments have slowed down considerably in recent decades, the cunning breakthroughs by American automakers over the years have set a pattern followed by other manufacturers worldwide.

Over the years, a select handful of specific makes and models have made a lasting impression and would ultimately become host to a crucial amount of historical significance in the American automotive industry. These are our top ten American classics of all time.

## 10 1960-1969 Chevrolet Corvair



If you're reading this article, then you're likely well aware of the Corvair's infamous reputation following the Ralph Nader incident, when the activist reported these cars as "unsafe at any speed". The entire fiasco ultimately led to the death of the entire Corvair lineup. What most people do NOT know that is later on, in 1972, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), concluded a lengthy investigation that exonerated the rear-engine compact. The NHTSA stated, "The handling and stability performance of the 1960-1963 Corvair does not result in an abnormal potential for loss of control or rollover and it is at least as good as the performance of some contemporary vehicles, both foreign and domestic.", which goes well against the grain of the original accusations. Regardless, the Corvair and its counterparts were long dead by 1972.

This is a bit ironic as the early 1970s would quickly see a change in the American automotive industry that, due to newfound regulations, veered away from muscle cars and aimed focus to smaller, more economical vehicles...like the Chevy Corvair. Despite the staggering backlash, the Corvair had initially proven to be a commercial success. However, several problems arose from Americans' unfamiliarity with driving rear-engine vehicles, especially when the Corvair was first introduced in the late 1950s. Of course, cars like Volkswagen Beetle were available in the US back then, but they were nowhere near as common and still acted as something of a novelty. Most Americans were simply used to large, front-engine cars with full frames and heavy curb weights.

The Corvair was a light, unibody compact with most of its weight in the rear, which obviously caused different handling characteristics, but still proved to be roughly as safe as any other American car of the era. The Chevy Corvair brought forth new ideas and innovations, even offering turbochargers in later models, as well as the Greenbriar vans and pickups which saw an entirely new level of versatility. There was absolutely nothing like it from any other American car manufacturer at the time, and General Motors still managed to sell over 1.8 million of them.