

Your Hosts: CCE

The first official known Corvair club in the Chicagoland area was the Northshore Monza Owners Club, sponsored by Joe Jacobs Chevrolet in Wilmette. Chevy dealers were encouraged to start a local club during the 63 model year; a year later in Volume 2, #1 of the *Corvair Communique*, (the official Chevrolet produced newsletter) 108 such clubs were listed in the U.S. As sales of new Corvairs decreased, so did the club support; Chevy pulled the plug on the program during the 66 model year. The Northshore Monzas apparently fizzled out before the last of the Communiques.

The enthusiasm of Chicagoland Corvair owners was still alive though and in August of 1968 a small event listing was placed in the “sports car events” section of a major newspaper. Those wishing to form a Corvair club were invited to meet at a now forgotten bar on Chicago’s near North side. Fourteen folks showed up. One of them, Don Fletchic, offered to host the next meeting at his large home in Oak Park. A preliminary newsletter was created, and the Chicagoland Corvair Enthusiasts were up and running. By January ’69, we had an elected Board and held our first banquet, with none other than Don Yenke and Stinger driver Jerry Thompson as our guest speakers. We’d also moved meetings from Don’s house to the local GM Training Center. Membership doubled to a whopping 31. Auto crossing, rallies, and “World Of Wheels” car shows were regulars on our event calendar. Ice Racing and dirt tracking would be added to our competition roster in following decades, along with producing/running shows and displays both small and large.

CORSA was formed in ’69, and our own Diana Brodman became our Liaison. That led to the first National CORSA convention, held in July of 1971, hosted by CCE. We’d do that a few more times—1974, 1987, 2001 and again this year (along with two regional conventions—1984 and 1990—thrown in for good measure).

We hope you will enjoy your experience here at the 2019 Convention. CCE is most pleased to have you as our Guests as we finish our 50th year in the best possible way!

