

# The Vair Fax



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**Inside this issue:**

|                              |     |
|------------------------------|-----|
| Officers                     | 1   |
| From the Editor              | 1   |
| Swap Shop<br>Upcoming Events | 2   |
| Local Cruise In's            | 2   |
| Advertising                  | 2   |
| From the Prez                | 3   |
| News                         | 4-5 |
| Springfest Results           | 6-8 |
|                              |     |
|                              |     |

## From the Editor

Hello everyone,

We had a great turnout at Helen this year, lots of food, fun and fellowship. I had time to see some cars this year and really enjoyed it.

Show results are posted in the newsletter.

It is with sadness to report we lost one of our founding club members. Eleanor Bruce will be missed by all. Please keep Billy Bruce and the family in your prayers.

We also lost another close friend of the club this month, Judi Cannon. Please keep Billy cannon and his family in your prayers as well.

Hope to see you at Dickey Farms on the 13<sup>th</sup>.  
 Clay

May Meeting  
Dickey's Peach Farm  
3440 Musella Rd  
Musella, GA 31066  
May 13<sup>th</sup> 11 am

### Upcoming events

November 10- 11 Perry GA Auto Fair 9am-5pm Ga National Fairgrounds

### Local area cruise ins

Cars Cruzin and Coffee  
8:30am 1st Saturday of each month  
5915 Zebulon Rd Macon GA

## Our 45th Year!

### ***Get the 2013-2018 Catalog***

If you did not get the catalog in 2013 or 2014, you can get one **FREE** on your first **\$50 order** during 2015. (Additional catalogs \$3 with an order)

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**From the Prez.....**

Hello everybody, and welcome to the May, it's not quite summer edition, of the Vair Fax. Springfest 2023 is in the books now, and it was a fantastic event. Weather was just great, a few storms rolled through around 3 am on Saturday, but the rain was gone by 9 am. There were 144 registrations processed, with 186 people attending the Friday night cookout, and 118 at the Saturday night banquet. I did a quick count, and came up with about 70 Corvairs. Many thanks go out to the guys who manned the grill on Friday, and to our own Clay Grant, who prepared a wonderful meal of smoked turkey breast, baked ham, green beans, corn, and his world-famous peach cobbler.

Many awards were handed out after the banquet, for the valve cover races, rally, funkhana, and peoples choice car show, as well as best of show. Those results are located elsewhere in this newsletter.

It is with a heavy heart and much sadness that I inform you of two deaths in our Corvair family. Eleanor Bruce passed away on April 27, 2023, after an extended illness. She and husband Billy were instrumental in the founding of Heart of GA Corvairs, back in 1987. Please keep Billy and their family in your thoughts and prayers during this time.

Judi Cannon passed away on April 29, 2023, also after an extended illness. Judi and husband Billy were very active members of Vulcan Corvairs, in Birmingham AL, as well as Heart of GA. Judi was a very talented artist, and a complete joy to be around. Please keep Billy and their family in your thoughts and prayers during this time.

Details concerning the visitation and funeral arrangements are in this newsletter.

Lillian Law is presently in a rehab facility in Thomasville GA. Her birthday was May 2nd, and she had a birthday party in her hospital room! Complete with cake and balloons! Lillian loves receiving cards, but please mail them to Chris and Joans home, and they will get them to Lillian.

Please note that the May meeting will be at Dickey's peach packing shed, in beautiful Musella GA on May 13th, at 11:00. After lunch, we will have our normal meeting, and then.... I will be giving you a test, or quiz. Be thinking about old advertising jingles and catch phrases. Should be fun!

Hope to see you on the 13th,  
your quizmaster,

**Chuck**

## Obituaries

### Eleanor U. Bruce

Eleanor U. Bruce, 85 of Bowling Green, FL, with residences in both Iva, SC and Tyrone, GA passed away on Thursday, April 27th, 2023 at AdventHealth Hospital in Sebring, FL.

Born August 18th, 1937 in Malden, MA, she was the daughter of the late, LCDR Robert Underwood Gross, Sr, USCG-Retired and Dorothy Francis Jackson Gross. She was also preceded in death by her sister, Georgetta “Gigi” Gross and her daughter, Catherine Nana Bruce.

Eleanor biographical information-----

She is survived by her husband of 66 years, CMSGT James William “Billy” Bruce, Jr, USAF-Retired; Brother DT1 Robert U Gross Jr, USN-Retired (partner Boni Williams) of Novato, CA; daughters CAPT Cindy Wilkerson, USN-Retired (husband Lee) of Bagdad, FL and Cheryl Jacobs (Tom Endfinger) of Newnan, GA; grandchildren Alicia Baker of Hampton, VA, Hannah Curtis (husband Lee) of El Paso, TX, Rachel Jacobs of Atlanta, GA, Noah Jacobs of Fayetteville, GA and Maria Wilkerson (partner Kieran Andrews) of New York, New York; great grandchildren Aiden Wilkerson of Bagdad FL, Liam Sikes of Hampton VA and Shepard and Thaddeus Curtis of El Paso, TX; numerous nieces and nephews all of whom she dearly loved.

Eleanor’s father was in the Coast Guard and she lived in several locations during her childhood. After her birth in Massachusetts, her family moved to Baltimore, MD (where her brother Bobby was born), then to Staten Island, New York followed by a move to the island of Kauai, Hawaii (where she went to elementary school barefoot!). They came back to the continental US and her father was stationed in New Orleans, LA, where her father retired from the Coast Guard. Then, the family moved to McComb, MS and finally settled in St. Petersburg, FL. It was there at the age of 17, that she met the love of her life, Billy, at a USO dance. They married two years later and she started her journey as an Air Force Wife. Their oldest daughter, Cindy, was born at MacDill AFB, FL and shortly after that, Billy was sent to Madrid, Spain and Eleanor moved to Iva SC while he was gone. After his return, they moved to Bunker Hill AFB (now Grissom AFB) where their daughters Cheryl and Cathy were born. In 1968, Billy was sent to Vietnam and Eleanor and the girls moved back to Iva, SC to be near family. After his return, the family moved to Plattsburg AFB, NY followed by a new assignment at Offutt AFB, NE where they lived until 1979. Billy ended his Air Force career with a move to Barksdale AFB where he retired in 1983. During all their military moves, Eleanor was able to remain employed with AT&T and retired in 1988 as a manager with 30 years of service. After their Air Force retirement, Billy and Eleanor moved to Georgia, first living in Warner Robbins and later in Tyrone GA where they remained 34 years. Eleanor became a true southern lady; her favorite meals were cheese grits with bacon for breakfast and fatback biscuits. She always opened her home to friends and family, making sure that everyone was well fed and entertained.

Eleanor spent her retirement enjoying many things such as travel, collecting, crafts, cooking, reading but most of all enjoying the company of her many friends. Eleanor and Billy were active members of various Corvair Clubs, Air Force squadrons and camping groups. They traveled the United States, to conventions, rallies and other events. They also flew Space A to several locations throughout the world and went on many cruises together. Eleanor had a prized Corvair convertible that won many awards (including Best of Show at the International conventions in Flagstaff, AZ and Peachtree City, GA) and she was very proud of that car. Billy and Eleanor become snowbirds in 1998, enjoying time every year in Key West and established a winter residence in Avion Palms, FL in 2000. That is where she was happiest, playing cards with friends, winning (sometimes!) at Bingo, enjoying live music and dancing, church on Sunday mornings, adventures with her group of lady friends and community meals with other residents of the park. Lady E was a big presence in the Avion Palms community and everyone will miss her smile and laugh. Wife/Mom/Grandma – you had such an impact on all of our lives, we love you so much and wish we had more time together. Rest in peace.

Visitation will be held from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm, Saturday, May 20th, 2023 at Iva Community Wesleyan Church, 1906 Elberton Highway, Iva. The funeral service will follow at 1:00 pm at the church with Rev. Bruce Wayne Evans and Rev. Jack Moore officiating. Burial will be in the Iva City Cemetery.

Condolences may be left for the family by visiting [WWW.MCDOUGALDFUNERALHOME.COM](http://WWW.MCDOUGALDFUNERALHOME.COM)

### **Obituary for Ms. Judi Ann Cannon**

A Celebration of Life Service for Mrs. Judi Cannon, 68, of Goodwater, will be Saturday, May 20, 2023, at 3 :00 p.m. at the Goodwater Baptist Church. Bro. Joe Fain and Dr. Jeff Fuller will officiate.

Mrs. Cannon passed away on Saturday, April 29, 2023, surrounded by her immediate family. She was born on September 10, 1954, in Sayre, Pennsylvania to Raymond H. Irons and Shirley E. Wood Irons. She was a member of Goodwater Baptist Church. Judi was a devoted wife, mother, and Nana to her grandchildren. She loved anything purple and her Yorkies. She enjoyed gardening, crocheting and jewelry making but has always had a passion for painting and sketching. Judi and Billy are Corvair enthusiasts, and she was the Secretary of Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts Car Club.

She is survived by her husband of 40 years, Billy B. Cannon Jr. of Goodwater, AL; daughters, Shandel Rae Bowling (Chris) of Prattville, AL, and Lyssa Louise Williams (Jon) of Alexander City, AL; son, Shawn David Cannon of Anniston, AL; grandchildren, Cody Hemphill, Austin Judge Cannon, Malakai David Cannon, Kamlyn Nevaeh Bowling, Auran Skye Bowling, Lexi Ann Williams (Jason), Kayli Rae Williams, Olivia LouJean Williams, Izabellah Avalene Williams, Isaiah Derick Dewayne Williams; great-grandchildren, Evalynn Brooke Cannon, Lily Anna Rose Cannon, soon to be great-granddaughter; sisters, Sandra Tobin, Helen Mead (Pete), Phyliss Lathrop (Ronald), Tammy Bennett and numerous

nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Raymond Irons Jr., James Irons, Gary Irons; son-in-law, Derick Dewayne Williams; father-in-law, Billy Bob Cannon and Mother-in-law, Lou Jean Bagley-Cannon.

The family will accept flowers or memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 42040, Oklahoma, City, OK 73123-3000, please include the name of deceased, next of kin and the address of the next of kin.

If flowers are ordered, please do not order sprays.

To send flowers or a memorial gift to the family of Ms. Judi Ann Cannon please visit our [Sympathy Store](#).

## SPRINGFEST 2023 RESULTS

### PEOPLE'S CHOICE

#### EARLY CLOSED

|                 |             |                         |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Mike Grubbs | 1964 Black Monza Spyder |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Dee Hartman | 1964 White Monza        |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> | Buck McColl | 1961 Black & White 500  |

#### EARLY OPEN

|                 |             |                    |
|-----------------|-------------|--------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Dave Moore  | 1964 Aqua Spyder   |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Randy Hall  | 1964 Red Monza     |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> | Tom Burgess | 1964 Maroon Spyder |

#### LATE CLOSED

|                 |                  |                      |
|-----------------|------------------|----------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Frank Metasavage | 1966 Turquoise Corsa |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Bill Warren      | 1965 Brown Corsa     |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> | Richard Sanford  | 1965 Red Corsa       |

LATE OPEN

|                 |               |                   |
|-----------------|---------------|-------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Jamie Cheek   | 1966 Red Monza    |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Duane Sipe    | 1966 Yellow Monza |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> | Scott Clifton | 1966 White Corsa  |

F.C. TRUCKS

|                 |             |                         |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Chris Law   | 1963 Teal Rampside      |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Gary Irwin  | 1962 Red Rampside       |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> | Jerry Wells | 1961 Turquoise Rampside |

F.C. VANS

|                 |               |                        |
|-----------------|---------------|------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Mike Gassmann | 1965 Orange Greenbrier |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Billy Price   | 1964 Red Greenbrier    |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> | Stan Gee      | 1964 Tan Corvan        |

FOUR DOOR

|                 |                    |                |
|-----------------|--------------------|----------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Keith Burkingstock | 1964 Red Monza |
|-----------------|--------------------|----------------|

STATION WAGON

|     |               |                    |
|-----|---------------|--------------------|
| 1st | Keith Henline | 1961 Teal Lakewood |
|-----|---------------|--------------------|

SPECIALTY MODIFIED

|                 |                 |                      |
|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Jeff Hufford    | 1963 Green Monza     |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Dean Gemberling | 1963 Yellow Rampside |

BEST OF SHOW

|     |               |                    |
|-----|---------------|--------------------|
| 1st | Keith Henline | 1961 Teal Lakewood |
|-----|---------------|--------------------|

**FUNKHANA**

(237 Max Points)

MEN

|                 |                 |              |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Dean Gemberling | 144.5 Points | 1963 Rampside   |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Eric Holtz      | 122 Points   | 1962 Greenbrier |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> | Titus Stewart   | 117.5 Points | 1964 Monza      |

WOMEN

|                 |             |               |            |
|-----------------|-------------|---------------|------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Lisa Shairy | 108.25 Points | 1966 Monza |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Jamie Cheek | 67.25 Points  | 1966 Monza |

### **VALVE COVER RACES - KIDS**

|                 |                      |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Kamlyn Bowling       |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Auran "Fred" Bowling |

### **VALVE COVER RACES - ADULTS**

|                 |                   |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | James Cheek       |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Jamie Cheek       |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> | Mikey Birkenstock |

### **RALLY**

|                 |                              |
|-----------------|------------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Chris and Julie Wiley        |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | James and Jamie Cheek        |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> | David Yemm and Mary Sullivan |





The Vair Fax  
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