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CORVAIR MAIL



Corvair Museum of America



A few months ago we received a message that a Corvair Museum of America is on its way. It is a different museum than the Corsa National Corvair Museum.

What kind of Corvair museum is this, who is behind it, why and what are the ideas?

I had a Facetime call with Christopher Shade to ask a few questions and he talked a lot about the future museum. Below the story, along with the website and screenshots of the promotional film, we hope to give you a clear picture of the Corvair Museum of America, which is located in Hastings NE.

Christopher Shade - Visit Shades Classic Corner

We go back in time a bit. May 2013 to be exact. It was the time I traveled alone across America for 3 weeks. Now alone also sounds so alone because I have met many people.

So is Christopher Shade. I was driving back from South Dakota to Iowa and I got a message on my phone telling me to make a stopover in Hastings Nebraska (about halfway). Christopher Shade had a garage there and was also a Corvair enthusiast.

I drove there and with a tense feeling I entered the showroom, at the time still at the old location. I was amazed, there was not one Corvair, but a showroom full of Corvairs. Christopher's auto garage had focused on buying, selling, servicing and refurbishing Corvairs. I was approached by a young lady (Danielle Kroger) and told her why I had entered. Full of excitement she called Christopher, because he was just on his way to the Convention in Kalamazoo, where I was going too. Christopher answers the phone "Full access to the entire building!" I was shown all the Corvairs he had. From project to competition state. It was beautiful to see. Luckily I later on the conven



Tie Christopher himself also seen and spoken, to complete the picture.

Now, many years later, Christopher has moved his company to larger premises and plans to establish the Corvair Museum of America at his company. This step is very logical since he receives daily calls and visits from people from the neighborhood as well as from America and abroad who

want to see the Corvairs in his collection. The Corvair Museum of America is an extension of visitors' almost daily comments:

"This is a museum!"

Christopher Shade is married to Stephanie. They have eight children and have lived in Hastings since 1998. Chris is a former music teacher, active in his church, and a member of the community parent council and school board.

Christopher has been a Corvair enthusiast all his life, he had his first Corvair when he was 14 and hasn't been



Why a museum

As far back as he can remember, Chris Shade remembers the Corvair as part of his family. Corvairs were not only his parents' means of transportation, they were also a source of pleasure when they drove to the ice cream parlor or drove mom and dad to race to church. Chris' love for Corvairs also led him to meet and eventually marry the love of his life, Stephanie.

Certain twists and turns in his life eventually led Chris to a full-time career dedicated to Corvairs. His company, Shade's Classic Corvairs, grew over time and has become a destination for many car enthusiasts. It even led to an annual Corvair event, the Corvair Track Classic, attended by Don Yenko's daughter, Lynn.

Through his business, Chris has met many great car enthusiasts from around the world, including those who are now on the CMOA board.

The mission of the Corvair Museum of America is: "...to share in a common way, knowledge - enrichment - history and experiences about the great car:

The Corvair.

The vision of the Corvair Museum of America is to preserve the legacy of the Corvair through engaging, educational exhibits.

How is the museum organized

We are going to do a tour through the museum with the drawings that were made. At the moment the museum is still housed in the building of Shade's Classic Corner and will have its own building from 2025, hopefully as shown in the drawings here. As a Corvair Club Nedrland member, we will of course keep you informed of the developments of the museum, and we will provide an update in the future.



The museum will be located in Hastings Nebraska, next to the location of Shades Classic Corner. The museum remains independent and is a non-profit organization. The total area of the museum will be almost 1700m²



Sixties dinner, complete for a snack and a drink



Entrance and sponsor/donation wall



Gift shop

Management



Christopher Shadow
President & Treasurer



Rob Amsler
Secretary



Teresa Miller
Media and Merchandise



Greg King
Historic



Eric Elliott
Technology



The space in the museum will be filled with, among other things, a 1960 Chevrolet car dealership as it would have looked in the past. The museum will feature a timeline of historical moments from the Corvair era. In addition to the historical moments, every Corvair will also highlight the technical aspects of the car. As a special Corvair there will be a '66 Bonneville Corvair record holder, Corvairs that have played in movies and the concour restored Lakewood that Christopher and his son made.



Yenko Experience

The highlight of the museum will be placed in the corner. A tribute to Don Yenko. Yenko's showroom will be recreated to tell Don's story. As a special item, 1 of the 100 Corvair Yenko Stingers built will be on display. 2 other highlights





will be featured here. A multi media presentation showing what great racing cars the Corvair was/is. Another part in the Yenko area are the race simulators where you can race against each other. A great way to get an impression of how things used to be in the Corvair racing era. The center piece in the museum will be used for changing exhibitions. Various special Corvairs will be exhibited here. Entertainment and learning will also be combined here (by means of active elements) for the children.



More than a Museum

We have now discussed the museum and the entrance, but more will be done in the building. For example, there will be a space for events that can be rented for "parties and parties" as well as for car clubs. Outside the main room there will also be a small meeting room. The Corvair Classic will also take place again in 2025. This is an event which

will take place at Motorsport Park Hastings A local track where fun comes together, races and shows come together. The main thing here is to have fun together. There will also be room in the "back yard" for a drive-in theater. Every month a movie will be played and people can take a seat with the (classic) car. The inner man will be taken care of by Special Scoops Ice Cream Parlor, which also works here



Support

Corvair Museum of America is a non-profit organization.

To cover the costs and to realize the museum, an Apex 2025 has been created.

Apex 2025 is the \$5.9 million capital campaign for the expansion of the Corvair Museum of America that will hopefully reach its goal by 2025.

The purpose of this campaign is to raise money for the museum and facilities to preserve the legacy of the Corvair. The plan is to put the shovel in the ground in 2025 and to be able to open the doors in 2027

You can support in different ways. Sponsorship, a one-off donation, purchasing merchandise as well as donating special Corvair items for the museum's collection.

Look for the possibilities on the website:

corvairmuseum.org



one of Christopher's children. So there are plenty of activities that will be set in motion over the years.

overnight

Outside on the site there is room for a camper to spend the night. The place is complete with electricity and water drainage. More places will be created in the future.

We are currently also working hard on a B&B. This is currently being completely refreshed and will be available again this summer.

Finally

The next goal is to get the financing together so that construction can start. We are curious about the future and hopefully this major project will start and we will see the doors of this museum open in 2027. If you are in the Hastings Nebraska area, be sure to stop by Shades Classic Corner (the current "museum")

It was already worth seeing 10 years ago, even more so at the new location and the future will be completely crazy!

Ralph Verhees

Thanks to the phone conversation with Christopher Shade.



For sale at Car Beautiful

Make: Chevrolet Corvair
Version: 1967
Mileage: 90,169 mi **Power:** 81 kW / 110 HP

- Interior is in very neat condition.
- Nice basis for a beautiful project. Underside has some rust.
- The car drives and brakes but needs to be checked.
- Are already European headlights and a set of hubcaps.
- This car comes directly from America and is currently not yet equipped with a Dutch registration.

For more information, visit: www.automooij.nl

Auto Mooij · Lange Vonder 16 · 5741 TT Beek en Donk · info@automooij.nl · 0492-778267 Viewing: Mon - Fri 9:00-18:00 · Sat 9:00-17:00 (Please call in advance due to availability)