

HEART of AMERICA CORVAIR OWNERS ASSOCIATION



VAIRCOR



January 2009

WWW.HACOA.ORG



2008 HACOA HOLIDAY PARTY A SPARKLING SUCCESS



This year's holiday party was a great success. The Fezziwigs have nothing on Kevin and Ada. The house was filled with warmth and friendship, with laughter coming from every corner and wonderful stories being told in every room. There were plenty of appetizers and refreshments, even a bit of Kevin's home-brew. The decorations inside and out would bring a healthy bit of holiday spirit to even the Scroogiest among us.

When it came time for the evening meal no one was disappointed, except maybe those who ate too many tasty appetizers. The food was served hot and flavorful and plenty for all.

As usual the gift exchange was the main event. Not for the gifts, although there were many fine gifts this year, but for the banter and camaraderie that always presents itself. The exchange started out very politely with no one stealing, but soon the first gift was stolen and then it was off to the races. Beer, one of the most sought after items, was not held onto very long and grudgingly handed over. Most gifts traded hands more than once, very few stayed in the hands of the original owner.

I felt pretty lucky when I chose a set of LED flashlights for my gift, only to have Jack Richardson steal the set from me, but when he stole it I was able to steal Kenny Ragan's 12 pack of Boulevard beer that was later stolen from me by Kevin Rafferty allowing me to steal my flashlights back from Jack, and Jack to steal Don Wagner's tin of very sweet looking sweets. I lost the trail after that. I had my flashlights and had been stolen from twice, so I was safe.

The best story of the night was by Kevin Koch. He had, in passing, told a story about the glass balls full of chemicals that were installed throughout the house as part of the original fire suppression system. But when his chosen gift contained a fire extinguisher he was asked to tell the full story about the removal of the glass balls. I won't go into the whole story, and it ended with Kevin's truck being surrounded by men in haz-mat suits telling him to step away from the vehicle.



Happy New Year to All

Common electrical problems: The following can either be "preventative maintenance" or a cure for a current problem. Keep in mind that bizarre electrical occurrences are usually from lack of a good ground.



Late model rear tail light sockets and early model front turn signal/parking light sockets share a common problem. They fall apart when removed repeatedly or they rust around the hole and lose their ground. Replace them with Echlin LS 6469 or O'reilly 08542 (Calterm). This socket does not have the plastic outer portion that comes apart on the original style. It has six metal tabs to ground instead of the original two. It does take extra effort to get it in place but once installed will not loosen up. You can also get the same all metal socket with a separate ground in case you have an especially bad early model trunk area.

Early model rear sockets can produce strange lighting effects due to bad grounds. The entire socket assembly must have a good ground to the body where it clamps from the back. The inner socket can lose its ground where it is crimped to the outer housing. The best approach is to replace the entire assembly when they begin to rot out. The reproductions should be weather-proofed from the back side after installation. Be sure they have a good ground to the body and that a good gasket is installed under the lens to keep water out of the inner socket. Poor lens gaskets rot out the inner socket on all the original taillight sockets also. If you're still nursing an original socket and the bulb seems loose, try extending the two contacts on the end of the bulb with a small drop of solder. This compensates for shrunken connectors underneath the dirt and undercoat. With the car lights on, use a test light to test the separate parts of the socket for good grounds. If you install an 1156 bulb in an 1157 socket or cross the wiring, you activate the tail-light circuit when you put on the brakes or activate the brake light circuit when you turn on the lights. Fun to track down!

A fuel gauge that reads over full is caused by an open in that circuit. The ground wire from the sending unit to the body at the tank is a likely cause. The other common problem is an open or dirty insulated area in the sending unit windings. Also a faulty dash ground on late models can cause an over full reading. If you have a float full of gas, the gauge will stay empty or close to empty. Before attempting repairs, use an ohm meter or a known good sending unit to test the system.

The next time our forecast is for -20 degrees, remember this: A battery at zero degrees has only 30% of its capacity. Take your battery indoors overnight or leave a droplight hooked up next to it and notice the wonderful difference. A lot of people think the engine turns over slow because it is cold - not so (unless you have dirty oil!!). Remove and clean battery cable connections twice a year; the inner surface of the clamps can lose contact due to corrosion and not show up during inspection.

Next month: some emergency procedures, including how to steal a Corvair in 30 seconds or how to prevent yours from being stolen.

More pictures from the party. Don't forget to check out the photo galleries at WWW.HACOA.org.



Last Years Doings

April 8...Annual HACO A auction with proceeds going to Turner House and the Frank Mitchell Corvair Scholarship. Highest bid went for Barb Wagner's Peanut Clusters, with Don driving up the bid!

June 7.... Old Shawnee Days Parade

June 10.. Club picnic at Sar-Ko-Par Trails Park

June 21.. Social at Bob and Jean St. John's in Higginsville

June 23-28...CORSA National Convention Ventura, California

June 28... Art of Concours, the Kansas City Art Institute, with Mike and Sandy Dawson and Jack and Donna Hill displaying their cars.

July 19...Trip to Arrow Rock State Park and Lyceum Theatre

July 26...Car display at the Westport Flea Market

August 2...Car display at the Riverwood Winery near Weston.

August 10 . Social at the Sloans in Shawnee

August 12...Gwen Koch presents a program giving an exciting account of climb to the top of Mount Kilimanjaro in north-eastern Tanzania (19340 ft.)

Sept 6..Car display at Zona Rosa

Sept 12-14...Great Plans Round Up in Oklahoma City

Sept 20...Visit to Scott Allison's Uncle's Museum

Sept 27...Overland Park Parade with 3 early and 6 late model convertibles

Oct. 18...Social and Dedication of Mike Dawson's new garage

Dec. 12.. Holiday Party at the Koches in Prairie Village

Upcoming events of 2009

Feb.21...Cold Tuna Mid Continent Corvair Association, Wichita, KS
Quarterly get together and fixer upper workshop.

March 7...Performance Group Workshop, Indianapolis IN
Annual event with discussions on Corvair high performance and upcoming racing events.

March 20-29.. Heart of Texas Reunion, New Braunfels, TX
At T Bar M Ranch and Resort in the Texas Hill County. Texas hospitality Friday at the Lone Star Grill, Saturday morning car show and afternoon road rally, banquet at the largest log cabin in Texas. Hotel register online www.tbarm.com, group name "Corvair," password "car," or call 800/292-5469. Event registration at www.corvairhouston.com.

July 13-17...2009 CORSA International Convention, Jacksonville FL
Historic presentation by the CPF Staff, performance-based workshops, rare Corvairs on display, plus all the usual events. Host hotel is Wyndham Jacksonville, 800/996-3426, mention Corvair Society for \$99 rate. Register online at www.wyndhamjacksonville.com, click "Search using Corporate, Promo and Group codes," enter your dates and 0719886CO for Group Code.

Oct 2-4....2009 Great Plains Round UP Wichita KS
Best Western Airport Inn and Conference Center.

Other items will be added as they are scheduled.

2010

June 21-25...Corvair's Golden Anniversary
CORSA National Convention in Cedar Rapids IA



NOSTALGIA PAGE CIRCA 1983

JACK AND DONNA HILL COMPLETE THE RESTORATION OF THEIR 65 CONVERTIBLE!!

HERE tis---FINISHED



Here 'tis -- that unfinished show car -- FINISHED!! Jack and Donna Hill's little red convertible, before and after. Shows that it can be done. Thanks for sharing your pictures with us! --- --

THE CORVAIR DECADE -pg 87

There is no doubt that the 1965 Corvair did represent a "Second Revolution," as Chevrolet so aptly dubbed it. Their objective, of making the '65 Corvair" just as exciting and singular a car as the first Corvair built for 1960, were fully achieved. Con-

	Car Life Dec. '64	Car & Driver Oct. '64	Motor Trend Jan. '65	Sports Car Graphic
	Munster 4-Dr. Sedan	Corsa 3-Dr. Coupe	Corsa 2-Dr. Coupe	Corsa 2-Dr. Coupe
Engine	110hp	180	180	180
Axle Ratio	3.55	3.55	3.55	3.55
Transmission	Auto.	4Sp.	4Sp.	4Sp.
Acceleration:				
0-30 mph - in sec.	5.7	2.7	3.5	3.1
0-40	8.6	4.7		5.0
0-50	12.5	6.9		7.2
0-60	17.5	10.2	10.9	9.7
0-70	26.2	13.6		12.3
0-80	49.5	18.6		16.6
0-90		25.0		22.7
0-100		37.0		31.9
Standing 1/4 mi. - sec.	20.9	17.2	16.1	15.6
Speed at end - mph	65	78	79	78
Top Speed - mph	90	114	114	119

sumers were beginning to recognize the value of the car, with a spurt in sales of about 123% of the 1964 sales. Unfortunately, however, an incredible set of circumstances stacked up against the ill-fated second series Corvair, and it was never given a chance to develop into the truly great automobile it could have been.



Other 1983 Events:

- Cabbage Patch Dolls are introduced.
- Camcorders are introduced.
- Final episode of M•A•S•H is aired.
- Sally Ride first American woman in space.
- Compact Disc are released.
- U.S. Embassy in Beirut is bombed.
- Last DeLorean produced.
- Dr. Luc Montagnier discovers HIV.
- Los Alamos National Laboratory computers hacked.
- Karen Carpenter dies.
- Star Wars: Return of the Jedi* is top grossing film.
- CORSA National Convention in Seattle.



In the past three decades, there has hardly been a Corvair Club parade, trip, or show without Jack and Donna Hill's little red '65 convertible. It has led parades, and it is always displayed prominently with the HACO banner on its door and fender. Jack and Donna are always right there, welcoming club members and visitors with smiles and stories. The car was refurbished in 1983 and stands today as an example that a project undertaken with pride and hard work will last a good long time.



Classifieds!!! Put Your Ad Here

We share the VairCor with 41 other CORSA chapters.



Still available. Red 1962 Corvair Monza, has right front fender damage - there is another headlight assembly in trunk also another bumper. It is in pretty good shape and could be restored. If interest give us a call --- 816-779-5504.
 Chuck Morris Peculiar, MO



For Sale:
 Rebuilt Corvair alternators converted to 63 amp internally regulated. \$75.00
 Rebuilt Corvair starters with solenoid. \$85
 Installation available - Mike Dawson 816 322-4057



A/C set up and lots of miscellaneous
 Bob Shellhorn 816-229-9783

Send Classified Ads to:
Newsletter@hacoa.org

Tool Crib

Tool	Deposit	Rental Fee
Harmonic Balancer Puller	\$3.00	\$1.00
Ramps, Auto	\$4.00	\$1.00
Torque Wrenches:		
1. 1/2" drive 20-150 ft.lb	\$15.00	\$2.00
2. 3/8" drive 100-1000 lb.	\$15.00	\$2.00
Floor Jacks and Stands	\$25.00	\$3.50
Ring Groove Cleaner	\$3.00	\$1.00
Dwell-Tach Meter	\$5.00	\$1.00
Greaser:		
Blower Motor and Idler Pulley	\$5.00	\$1.00
Hubs:		
Rear Towing for LM Powerglide	\$5.00	\$1.00

Contact: Ken Ragan

Ragan Enterprises
 212 Warner Rd
 Bonner Springs KS 66012
 913-422-5778

E-mail: kenragan@sbcglobal.net

KEN OR GINI RAGAN
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Specializing in custom in-wall and wall-mount cabinetry storage solutions for the home
 Custom consoles for Corvairs.

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I Buy:
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 Speakers
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 NOS Parts

Clock Movements Repaired or Converted to Quartz

Have a Corvair related business? Put your business card in the VairCor.

Quality Body Work:

I have a neighbor here in Belton who is retired now and who did body work for years. He does really good work at his home at very reasonable prices. He recently repaired the eye brows on Sandy's 63 coupe by carefully making up templates and then welding in all new metal. He did a great job and the areas were ready for paint (he does not do complete paint jobs). He indicated he would do work for folks in our club who might need it. If anyone is interested, give me a call and I will put you in touch with him. Mike Dawson 816 322-4057

Racing just for Fun

Dick Berger and Charlie Clark have been racing Corvairs for quite a while. Both have a few trophies and more than a few stories. Dick met Charlie back in 1968 when he was looking for a turbo exhaust pipe for his first Corvair, which he had dubbed "The Rat". None of the dealerships had the part, but one sent Dick to see Charlie. Charlie had one, in bushes in front of his house. Dick introduced Charlie to Tom Holstrom and the two became partners in road racing. Tom building the racing engines for both Dick and Charlie.

Dick tells a story where He, Tom, Charlie and Mike Dawson all took their racecars to the CORSA Convention in Denver. They did well racing, but as a fluke entered their cars in the Concours, Dick finished 3rd and Mike 4th. But Mike finished ahead of Dick in the Autocross event. Mike actually towed his racecar behind his Greenbrier to and from the Denver convention with no trouble.

One of Dick's current Corvairs a blue and silver 68 convertible is the winningest car in SCCA National Solo Competition with 5 national championships. Charlie's green Corvair has won 4. Recently Dick and Charlie participated in the 36th National Solo Competition in Topeka. A event that both have raced in all 36 times. But Dick can boast that he has driven a Corvair powered vehicle every year.

Below are pictures of Dick's black coupe racing in SCCA events in Kansas City and St. Louis and the 68 convertible at National Championship in Topeka. Charlie's green car on display at Metcalf South in 2004.



Mike Dawson towing his racecar with his Greenbrier

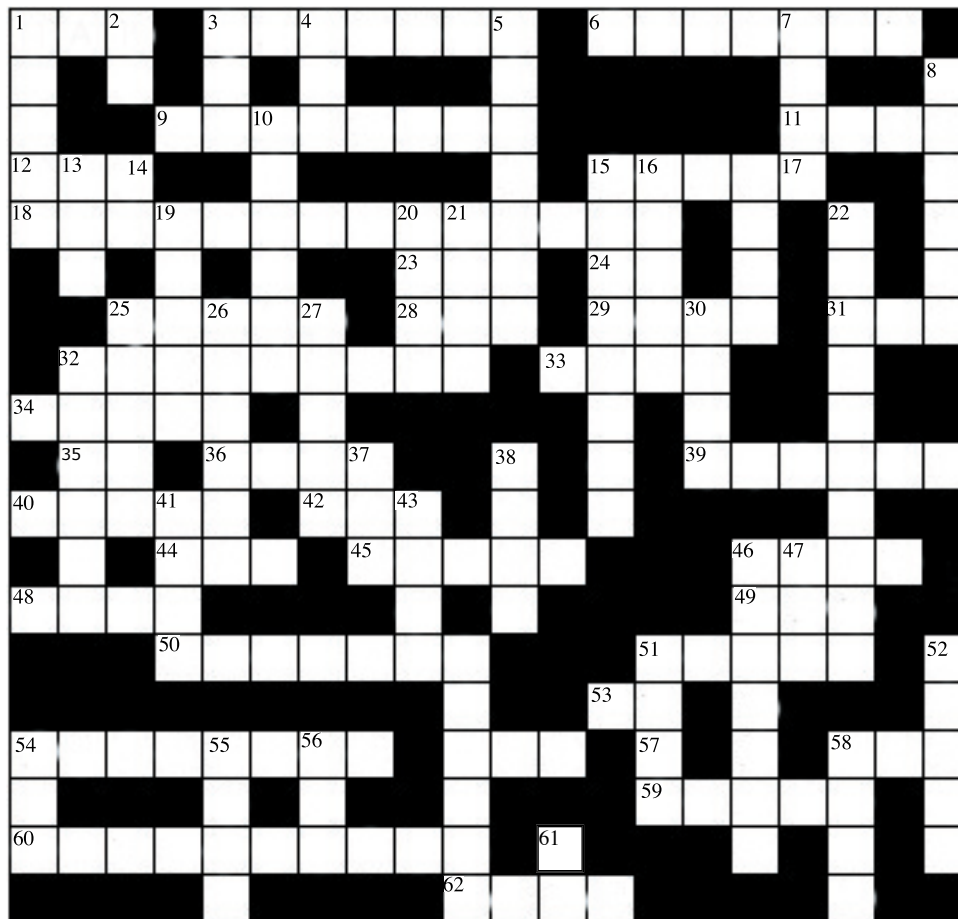
The It-Was-to-Cold-and-Icy- to-Work-on-My-Corvair Puzzle.

ACROSS

1. Keep a folded one in the glove box
3. Chevy made Corvairs; Ford made _____
6. Throw one of these and your 'Vair will get 32 down
9. Has a bed but no ramp
11. Sports Car Club of America
12. A debt is something you _____
15. The 65 Corvair was introduced by the Man from _____
18. Garnet ragtop
23. You might call this group if you need a tow
24. In the 60's watching *Bonanza* was particularly good if you had a new color _____
25. The Beatles, Hank Williams, Mozart and the Beach Boys all made _____
28. Unwell
29. Take a breather
31. A human thing to do
32. To design the Corvair GM used their _____
33. Corvair's competition from Studebaker
34. A fool and his _____ are soon parted
35. Land over the Rainbow
36. Some were padded
39. It gives you a some leverage
40. Some mechanics prefer to work in this
42. Roll down the windows and let in some _____
44. Linkletter, Garfunkel or Carney
45. No small accomplishment, this Minnesota company has built over 250 million trucks since 1947
46. Our newsletter is known as the _____Cor
48. Roger Miller hit "Kansas City _____"
49. A tavern choice
50. Pontiac's first Y-body
51. Custom Corvair company owned by Art Hershberger
53. The Beetle was made by _____
54. Corvair wagon
57. Makes the lifters lift
58. Camp bed
59. Built Stingers
60. GM Dual speed automatic transmission
62. Kuralt and Kerouac were both on the _____

DOWN

1. In a Corvair, it's air-cooled and in the back
2. Percy Kilbride was this Kettle
3. Up and down, to and _____
4. The trunk is covered by a deck _____
5. Buick's first Y-body



7. He flies through the air, with the greatest of _____
8. Dodge's answer to the Corvair
10. Dorothy wanted to get back to her _____ Em
13. WWW.HACOA.ORG is on the World Wide _____
14. Mr. Cole
15. Corvair powered RV
16. Corvair anti-freeze change interval
17. Unfound
19. A car with a fixed roof and two doors
20. Some Corvairs were delivered by _____
21. This can be sad or happy and also tall
22. The upscale Corvair van
25. Spring of 1960 saw the introduction of the _____
26. Early model turbo-charged Monza.
27. Late model replacement for the Spyder
30. _____ to my Lou
32. Lose your fan belt and your Corvair will get _____
33. The _____ parade featured your favorite music.
38. Marion Robert Morrison's nickname, besides John Wayne
41. Later Corvair competition from Dodge
43. Sterling, Steiger, and Carew
46. Corvair competition from Plymouth
47. _____ mode
51. Earliest Corvairs weren't equipped with a _____ bar
52. Built Sprints
54. Once around the track
55. There is one from the coil to the distributor
56. Black gold, Texas tea, made Jed a millionaire
58. High ignition voltage is supplied by the _____
61. Majorie Main was this Kettle



President's Corner - Don Wagner

When you get this newsletter it will be 2009 so, I would like to wish all HACO A club members a Happy New Year. This last year we have had an outstanding year with our socials, car displays, programs at club meetings, trip to museum, and Koch's Christmas Party. Thank you to these officers, board, & chairmen. Speaking about the party, the unique gift that Barb got was the gift given out last - a box of rocks. ??? When she picked up the bag of rocks, there was a note saying to look in the refrigerator where she would find ice cream. This was a different type of present! I would like to thank all of the people that made all of the events go so well last year. I just don't

know how we will top last year but, between you, me, and Mike I hope it will be better. I guess one of the first things that we need to do is for all the club members to get their dues, (\$15 dollars) for the 2009 year given to Sandy Dawson or mailed to her at 16001 Oakland Ave., Belton, MO 64012. If you take care of this in January, it will made it easier for her to get a new roster done. (Thank you)

Scott will be running the January meeting because Barb and I will gone on a cruise in the Mediterranean Sea area. Here is the places that we will be. Barcelona - Spain, Sicily (Palermo) - Italy, Athens - Greece, Rhodes - Greece, Limassol - Cyprus, Alexandria - Egypt, Valletta - Malta, and back to Barcelona where we fly out on Jan. 16. We will see you at the February meeting.



While the Weather Holds

All season tires are supposed to be one size fits all, but this is not necessarily true. Studies have shown that four wheel drive cars do better in winter conditions with all season tires than do front or rear wheel drive cars with winter tires. The days of two winter tires are gone and now if you convert to winter tires, it is four tires. To make the tire accounting easier do you buy four more wheels or three and convert your spare to a winter tire or do you do the fall spring changeover every season? Where will the off season tires or wheels be stored? Will your tire dealer store them and if so at what price? Do you buy the new Q tires with retractable studs and practice your James Bond impression?

Will there be a package sale locally or nationally to help in this decision process? Do you drive on the best all season tire you can buy and tough it out in the rough weather? That may be the ultimate decision after considering the cost and hassle of the tires or a four wheel drive vehicle.

George Washington Still on Active Duty

When you next check your tires for wear, remember to use a quarter and not a penny. From the Tire Rack: After testing tires that pass the Penny Test on a water-slicked track and comparing their grip to tires with a tread depth of 4/32 of an inch — or the amount of tread that's left when you place a quarter in a tire's grooves and can still see Washington's scalp — The Tire Rack says that small amount of extra rubber makes a big difference in stopping distances. At highway speeds with 2/32 of an inch of tread depth remaining, resistance to hydroplaning (when a tire "floats" over water on the road instead of gripping the pavement) is significantly reduced and stopping distances dramatically increase.

"Our recommendation is intended to get people to recognize that they're going to be sacrificing wet stopping ability by letting their tires get to a 2/32 of an inch tread depth," says John Rastetter, director of tire information at The Tire Rack. "And we want them to consider that rather than driving on their tires longer."

REMINDER: MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS DUE JANUARY 1



Jack and Donna Hill's 65 Convertible

HEART of Amerca Corvair Owner's Association
16001 Oakland Ave
Belton MO 64012



A group of friends devoted to the fun, preservation
and restoration of all Corvairs

Founded 1964

Meetings 2nd Tuesday of each month
At Chappel's Restaurant
323 Armour Road
Kansas City MO



HEART OF AMERICA CORVAIR OWNERS ASSOCIATION, CHAPTER #640

16001 Oakland Ave Belton, MO 64012

Welcome to HACOA!! Membership Application for year _____.

Please provide as much information as possible. Items with * are required so that you can receive the newsletter, *VairCor*, on a monthly basis.

Thank-you from your HACOA family.

*Last Name: _____ *First Name: _____ Spouse's Name: _____
*Street: _____ *City: _____ *State: _____
*Zip: _____ *Phone #: _____ Cell Phone#: _____
E-mail: _____ * Corsa Member #: _____ * Exp. Date: _____
Occupation (His): _____ Work #: _____
(Hers): _____ Work #: _____
Birthdates (His): _____ (Hers): _____ Anniversary: _____
Children Name: _____ Female Birth date: _____
Name: _____ Female Birth date: _____
Name: _____ Female Birth date: _____
Name: _____ Female Birth date: _____



- Meetings Weekend Tours Parades Socials Serve as an Officer Committee Chair
- Concours/Shows Autocross Swap Meets Day Trips
- Please check all that you may be interested participating in.

List your special interests and Corvair skills: _____

List Corvairs owned with description (everyday driver, restoration, show car, parts, etc.)

1. Year: _____	Make: _____	Model: _____	Description: _____
2. Year: _____	Make: _____	Model: _____	Description: _____
3. Year: _____	Make: _____	Model: _____	Description: _____
4. Year: _____	Make: _____	Model: _____	Description: _____
5. Year: _____	Make: _____	Model: _____	Description: _____
6. Year: _____	Make: _____	Model: _____	Description: _____

Other Car Club Affiliations: _____

HACOA dues are \$15.00 per calendar year (Due January 1st). Paid by (please circle one) Check on ____/____/____. Due to Corvair Society of America (CORSA) and HACOA's insurance program and HACOA's By-laws, it is NECESSARY that all HACOA members also be CORSA members. Membership for CORSA is on a yearly basis from the month you first join. After initial membership, CORSA will send an annual notice. (See reverse side for CORSA application and fees). HACOA appreciates you completing an application each year.

As a member you will receive the chapter's monthly newsletter *VairCor*.

How would you like your newsletter delivered?
 1. Download the newsletters yourself at HACOA.ORG.
 2. Email electronic newsletters sent to your email address.
 3. USPS-paper copy sent to your home address. Color Black and White

Interactive Membership Form Available Online at: WWW.HACOA.ORG