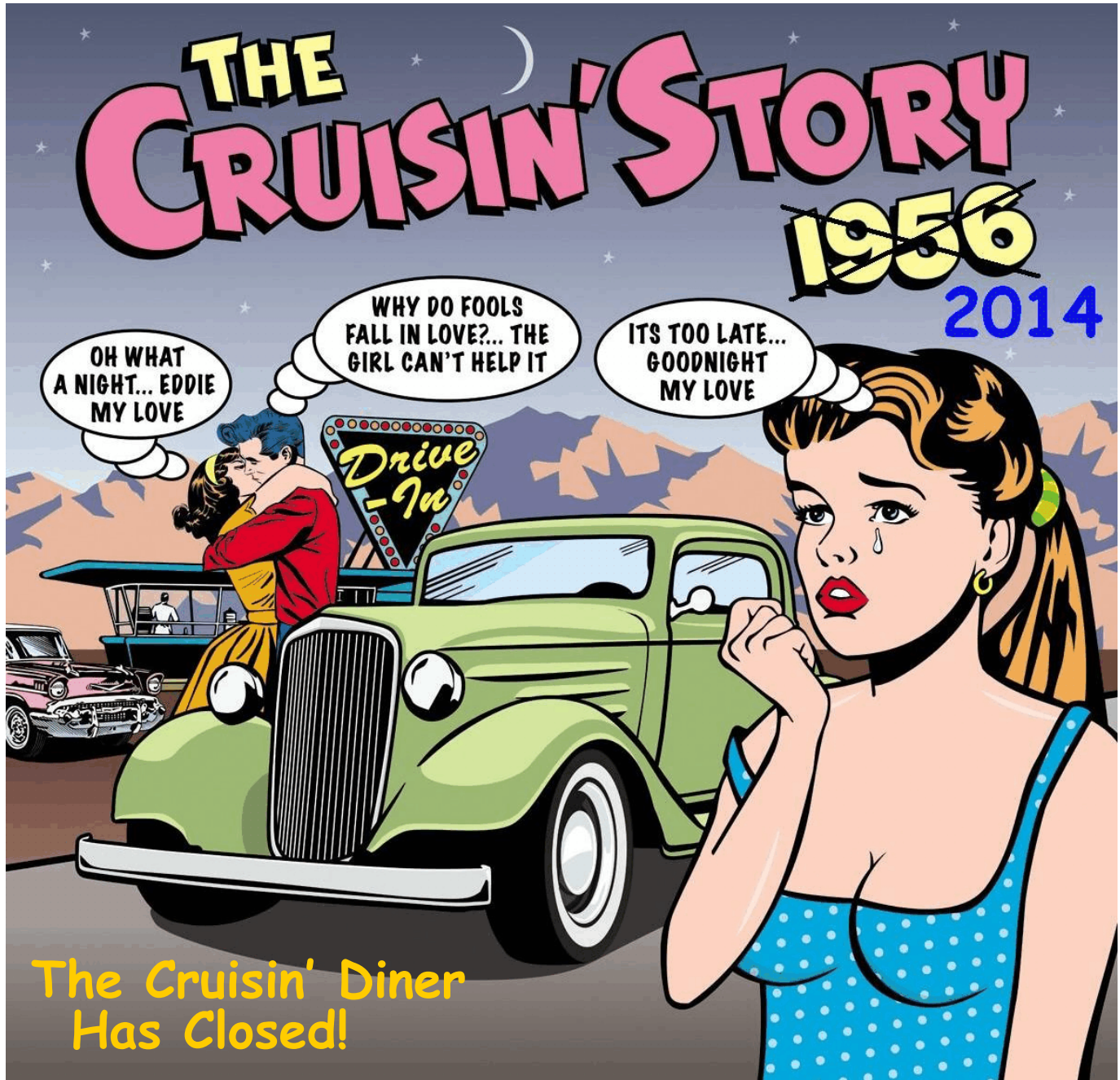


April 2014

the *Fanbelt* *njace*

new jersey association of CORVAIR enthusiasts



What Can We Do? Where Can We Go?
Read the Tragic and Thrilling Story in this Issue!

The Shocking True-Life Story* of the Closing of the Cruisin' Diner, and the Dramatic Search for a New Breakfast Location

* Inspired by Actual Events

It first came as a panicked phone call in the night from Steve Calandra to Brian O'Neill: *The Cruisin' Diner has closed!*



Brian kept calm, and stopped at the diner the next day. Taped to the door was a hand-lettered sign: *Closed for Two-Week Vacation.*



Two weeks went by, and the diner did not reopen. Then three weeks. Then four.

In the meantime we skipped the March breakfast due to the rescheduled Parts Auction, but the diner remained closed, with the "Two-Week Vacation" sign still on the door.



It was becoming obvious that Steve's initial conclusion was correct. *The Cruisin' Diner has closed!*

Once again, we found ourselves without a regular meeting place. Once again, we would have to move.



Continued →

The Shocking True-Life Story of the Closing of the Cruisin' Diner, and the Dramatic Search for a New Breakfast Location, **continued**

It has happened too many times before. The Bonanza was torn down. The Ground Round was remodeled into a Fuddruckers with the meeting room eliminated. September's converted to a go-go bar before going belly-up. The Pronto Deli folded.

At the location of the Cruisin' Diner, two previous incarnations at which we held our meetings also failed to survive, the Oasis Diner and the Hong Kong Buffet.

NJACE, it appears, is the kiss of death for the restaurant business!



In this instance, however, it came as no real surprise, as the Cruisin' Diner had been unable to attract sufficient business and repeatedly shot itself in the foot with poor service and uneven quality.

It's a shame, however, because the central location was ideal for us and the car-themed decor suited us perfectly.

Nelson, the manager, was an upbeat, friendly fellow who was a "car guy" himself and who was welcoming to clubs like ours. So we tolerated the slow service and the unpredictable quality.

But failure is all-too-common in the restaurant business, and the Cruisin' Diner appears to have joined the ranks of those that have failed.



So, Now What?

Boldly, the NJACE officers got together and checked out the nearby **Empire Diner on Route 46 in Parsippany**. This diner, while not offering the fully private meeting space that we enjoyed at the Cruisin' Diner, is a long-established and successful diner with a good and varied menu, and it is easy to get to.

On the day that the officers visited the food and service were both good and the manager was happy to schedule monthly breakfasts. As a result, beginning this month the Empire Diner is where we will meet for breakfast on the first Saturday (April 5 this month).

**Beginning this month
the Empire Diner is where
we will meet for breakfast**

The address is **1315 U.S. 46, Parsippany, NJ 07054**. This is on the eastbound side, a short distance east of I-287, and easy to get to from I-80 or I-287.

The meeting location may have changed but the day and time have not: Saturday morning, beginning at 9:00 AM.

Spring is here, so dust off the Corvair and join us at the Empire Diner this Saturday.



April Tech Session

by Larry Ashley

Immediately following our breakfast this Saturday at the Empire Diner we will have a club Tech Session at the body shop in Flanders. This tech session has a central theme of not a car but just an engine!

My 1966 Turbo 180 engine will be the primary focus. It is on the engine run stand, and after about ten years of storage after the rebuild, it is now a running engine. The first oil change has already been completed, and we will adjust the valves, synchronize the carburetors (yes there are two on this engine), and check the timing. At the same time we will make sure that all the systems of the run stand are working as intended.

If the weather is good to us, we will be doing this outside, but if the weather is less than ideal we will be inside the shop.

Tech Session April 5
Ashley's Auto Body
 274 Hillside Avenue, Flanders, NJ

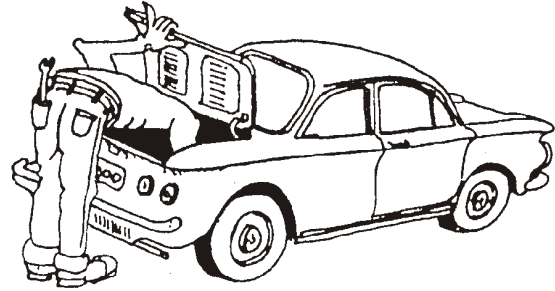
Even though a turbo engine has only one Carter carburetor in its stock setup, it would be difficult at best to accomplish what we are doing without first breaking it in with a pair of stock Rochester carbs instead of the full turbo setup.

This engine was built for my Corsa convertible, and eventually that car will be ready for it. But the short term (who knows how long) plan with this engine is to install it first in my Rampside, to get the truck back on the road and to fully break in the engine. By the time the convertible is ready there will be mileage on the engine.

Also on the docket for Saturday is installing new engine compartment insulation in Nick Ford's 1967 Monza, not a difficult job at all but one made much easier with help.

There are no other defined goals for this tech session, but as always anyone is welcome to drive their 'Vair and if an issue exists we can

check it out. If it is a simple fix, it might be attempted right then and there. If not, a future tech session can be planned.



My hope this year is to get more members cars running properly (including my own). There are always a number of issues, minor and major, that can be addressed at one of our tech sessions. These are not just mechanical issues either. They can be engine cooling, electrical, weatherstrips, trim, door and lid alignment, exhaust replacement and upgrade (duals on any Corvair!), suspension, the heating system, and others.

Don't hesitate to contact me with anything that you may want to tackle at a tech session. You may be surprised at how easy it really is. Of course there are limits to what we can accomplish in a day, but let's see what can be done for you. My email is lashley327@optonline.net.

Already in the planning stages is the June tech session which will focus on a single comprehensive subject that will be of interest to every Corvair owner in the club. More details to follow.



Cherry Blossom Time

by Rob Wanhouse

You hear a lot about the cherry blossoms in Washington, DC, each year, but you don't have to go to the nation's capital to take in the beauty of springtime cherry trees. You can do so right here in New Jersey, and that will be the point of our **April Driving Tour on Saturday, April 26.**

The tour will begin at the famous Six Brothers Diner located at 475 US 46, Little Falls. This is one the eastbound side, less than half a mile before the Route 3 split.



We will drive first through Montclair State College, in our further attempt to teach these kids what cool vehicles look like.



Will make our way to Branch Brook Park in Newark, yes, Newark, where you will find a 360-acre expanse that stretches nearly four miles from US Route 280 in Newark northward to Mill Street in Belleville, and which averages a quarter-mile in width. The park includes vast lawns, playing fields, winding paths, streams, pools and lakes. Branch Brook Park Lake alone

covers 24 acres, and throughout the park there are 19 unique bridges over the waterways.



Branch Brook Park was designed by Frederick Law Olmsted Sr. in 1867. He is the same fella who did NYC's Central Park. The park's 4000 cherry trees should be in full bloom at that time. By comparison, the area around Washington, DC's Tidal Basin has 3,750 cherry trees. Branch Brook Park has the largest collection of Japanese flowering trees in one location in the United States.

Bordering the park is the 5th largest Gothic-Style cathedral in the United States, the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. This will be our last stop before lunch.



So meet us for departure from the Six Brothers Diner at 10 AM on Saturday, April 26. Hope to see you there!

The Eaglet Has Landed!



They're watching a Momma Eagle hatching some eggs at Duke Farms, one of the indoor stops on our otherwise wet and rainy driving tour on March 29.

The bird was on Duke Farms' version of Candid Camera. Two eggs had hatched earlier.

The second photo, at right, was taken at Morven, former New Jersey Governor's Mansion in Princeton.

Had it not been such a rainy day we might have had some outdoor shots. But the tour nonetheless attracted thirteen intrepid NJACE members and was well-planned by Rob Wanhouse. Better weather awaits us for this month's tour to Branch Brook Park.

Ken Schiffner, who provided these pictures, noted that one of the questions posed along the tour route was "How many locks did we pass?" Ken's answer was "Locks? What locks? I didn't even see any bagels."





This month we welcome new member Mark Lipkovitz. It is not clear from Mark's membership form whether he owns a Corvair at this time. On the line where we ask members to list "Your Corvairs," he wrote "1964 - I owned it for two months, in 1970. My dad made me sell it."

Further down the form, where we ask "When and why did you buy your first Corvair?" Matt's answer is one word: "Lust."

FCs A-Poppin

There appears to be a small boom in FC ownership among NJACE members. (FC = Forward Control = Corvair 95 models = the Corvair trucks and vans.)

First, Ray Coker learned of this white Rampside stored in a shed for decades. After a little negotiation and some very gracious help from a fellow "Corvair guy" in the town where the truck was located, it is on its way to Ray to become a new campground truck.



Then, Tony Gervasio picked up this sharp Corvan in Pennsylvania. Tony has already begun the process of dealing with "prior owner syndrome," such as aftermarket sway bars that rub on the tires, but he plans to have the van fully roadworthy soon.



Next, Bob Marlow followed up a lead for a turquoise Greenbrier that, while in storage and neglected for many, many years, is in original unmolested condition and without the rust usually found on these vehicles.

Bob has not yet completed a deal to acquire the van but it may be coming to New Jersey in the weeks ahead.



Joke of the Month:

Did you hear about the two silkworms having a contest? It ended in a tie.

Due?

It's membership renewal time! Our "membership year" runs from April 1st through March 31st. With both one- and two-year renewal options available, only some members are due for renewal in any given year.

Is this your year? Check the list at right to see if your membership is due for renewal. (The list has been updated with renewals received as of March 31.)

If your name is on the list, please print and fill out the membership form on the next page, and send it in with your dues payment. Thank you!

<i>Last Name</i>	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Expires</i>
Androvett	Phil & Maryann	03/31/14
Ashley	Larry & Donna	03/31/14
Calandra	Steven	03/31/14
Cohen	Wm. & Marguerite	03/31/14
D'Alesandro	Dr. Phillip A.	03/31/14
Forlenza	Theodore	03/31/14
Gorski	Gregory & Rita	03/31/14
Hardcastle	Barbara & Ernie	03/31/14
Horne	Howard & Sherri	03/31/14
Lacki	Allan & Joan	03/31/14
Lorenz	Fred	03/31/14
Louglas	Peter & Lillian	03/31/14
Ludwig	Tom & Liz	03/31/14
Mirabella	Nick	03/31/14
Natale	Ed & Lois	03/31/14
Niemiec	Gary & Gail	03/31/14
Peles	Ronald & Gloria	03/31/14
Shaver	Russ & Linnea	03/31/14
Stanley	William	03/31/14
Swygert	Andre	03/31/14
Tabalt	Donald	03/31/14
Wanthouse	Robert	03/31/14
Widman	Richard & Diana	03/31/14
Winant	Dorcey & Rick	03/31/14



**NJACE Breakfast
at the Empire Diner
Route 46 East, Parsippany
This Saturday, April 5**



New Jersey Association of Corvair Enthusiasts

P.O. Box 631
Ridgewood, NJ 07451

Membership Form

Date _____

[] New Membership or [] Renewal

[] Individual or [] Family*

*Family Membership includes two adults and all children under age 21 living at a single address.

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Name of 2nd Adult Family Member _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____

E-mail _____

Our monthly newsletter and other updates are delivered via e-mail.
Printed materials are mailed periodically, as needed.
We do not share our mailing lists with others.

NJACE dues are payable as follows:

[] One Year Membership, New or Renewal.....\$19.00

[] Two Year Membership, New or Renewal.....\$36.00

Membership expires on March 31st

Total Remitted: \$ _____

Please make your check or money order payable to NJACE, Inc.,
and mail this completed form and payment to the address above or deliver it to the Treasurer at any club event.

NJACE is a Chapter of CORSA, the Corvair Society of America.
CORSA membership information is available online at http://www.corvair.org/

Tell us about you and your Corvairs

Your Corvairs (year, model, color, equipment, condition etc) _____

Your other cars and trucks _____

Your other hobbies and interests _____

Your profession _____

Your birthday (and your age, if you wish) _____

Your anniversary (and year married, if you wish) _____

Your children/grandchildren or other family _____

Your pets _____

When and why did you first buy a Corvair? _____

Anything else you'd like to tell us _____

http://www.corvair.org/chapters/njace