

March 2015

the *Fanbelt*

new jersey association of CORVAIR enthusiasts

Spring Begins March 20th Our First Driving Tour of the year is March 28th! We're Cruisin' to the Shore to visit the Vintage Automobile Museum of New Jersey in Point Pleasant



Like all good museums, the Vintage Automobile Museum of New Jersey changes its exhibits periodically, and we'll be there shortly after the opening of their latest display, "Hot Rods & Street Rods."

After a decade of planning and preparations, the museum opened on September 15, 2012. Six weeks later, Hurricane Sandy pushed 51 inches of water into the building. But through the hard work of volunteers and generous donors the museum is back and, to coin a phrase, stronger than the storm.

Speaking of phrases, *but wait, there's more!* The museum is adjacent to the New Jersey Museum of Boating, so whether your transportation interests are on land or on water, this day will have something for you.



Plus – satisfy your seafood cravings with our restaurant stop following the museum. Complete details of the day appear inside this issue.

Monthly Breakfast Saturday, March 7 Next Tech Session March 14

The Fanbelt is published monthly by the New Jersey Association of Corvair Enthusiasts (NJACE), Inc. P.O. Box 631, Ridgewood, NJ 07451. Deadline for contribution is the 20th of each month. Classified-style advertising of interest to Corvair owners is available, free of charge, to all persons. A commercial ad can be placed in an issue of the *Fanbelt* for \$50 per full page, \$30 per half page, \$20 per quarter page, and \$10.00 per business-card. (Generally, classified advertisers are those offering individual cars and/or a limited number of parts, while commercial advertisers are those offering services and/or parts from stock. NJACE reserves the right to make this determination). All advertising must be PC-compatible or type-able copy.

NJACE is a chapter of the Corvair Society of America (CORSA), Inc., P.O. Box 607, Lemont, IL 60439. Meetings of NJACE are held periodically at locations and times as announced in this newsletter. All interested persons are welcome. Additional events and activities are held throughout the year. Membership in NJACE is open to individuals and families. Information and applications are available at any meeting or by writing to NJACE, P.O. Box 631, Ridgewood, NJ 07451, or by visiting www.corvair.org/chapters/njace.

President's Message

by Brian O'Neill

Editor's Note: The President is AWOL, attending the 12th annual Corvair Performance Workshop in Indianapolis. We can expect to learn of the latest doings in Corvair racing and performance modifications upon his return. In his absence, VP David Main will preside.

Spring Driving Tour #1 Cruise to the Shore

As we write there may still be snow on the ground, but Spring begins on Friday, March 20, and a week later, on Saturday, March 28, we will celebrate the changing of the season by taking a road trip, or a "Driving Tour" as Activities VP Rob Wanhouse likes to call it.

And what could be a better harbinger of approaching warm weather than to head to the shore region? Specifically, to Point Pleasant and the Vintage Automobile Museum of New Jersey. Located at 1800 Bay Avenue and adjacent to the New Jersey Museum of Boating, the Vintage Automobile Museum of New Jersey is a neat little place, the fruit of efforts by a dedicated team, and a plucky survivor of "Superstorm Sandy" which tried its best to flood the museum out of existence.

Gas prices remain low and there is no admission charge to the museum. Friends, family, and children are welcome! Drive your Corvair, but any kind of vehicle is welcome. The museum is currently moving in a new display that will open just before our visit, "Hot Rods & Street Rods."

We'll meet up at the Cheesequake Service Plaza on the Garden State Parkway, located at milepost 123, just a short distance south of the massive Driscoll Bridge. The service plaza has large and surprisingly clean restrooms, a wide selection of fast food options, and gasoline.

We will be departing the service plaza at

10:00 AM sharp, so plan your trip so as to not be late! From the service plaza it is less than a 40-minute cruise to the museum.

Rob spoke to Ann Stabile, the president of the Museum, and she is looking forward to seeing us and is putting us on the museum's calendar of events.

Following our visit to the museum we will head to lunch at a well-known shore restaurant that features fresh seafood and casual dining.

If the weather is on our side we'll be able to visit the oceanfront, too. So mark the date and plan on joining our first driving tour of the year. Remember, it's **Saturday, March 28**, we're **meeting at the Cheesequake Service Plaza** on the Garden State Parkway, and we're **departing there at 10:00 AM**.

Springtime – vintage cars and boating history – fresh seafood – it's all good!

WIN a Gift Certificate from Clark's

In this edition of the newsletter you will see an ad from Clark's Corvair Parts. In return for running the ad each month during 2015, Clark's has provided us with a supply of \$20 gift certificates, and you could win one of them just by joining us for our monthly breakfast at the Empire Diner in Parsippany.

You'll still be able to win a free breakfast just by showing up. At the breakfast we will draw a numbered chip to select at random one lucky member, who will get to choose either the free breakfast or a Clark's gift certificates. Then we'll draw a second chip for the remaining prize.

But you have to be there – if we draw your name and you're not there, we draw again, and again until we have a winner!

Even an Indoor Event can be affected by the Weather

by Bob Marlow

Our annual Corvair Parts Auction on February 21 was another success despite drawing about three-quarters of the usual number of attendees due to snow in the forecast. 36 bidders registered, down from the usual 45-50.

Although the snow was forecast for the later part of the day, it arrived slightly ahead of schedule, just after lunch. A decision was made to stop the bidding at 1 PM, and bidders were given the opportunity to request items that had not yet been offered for bid.



Frank Hunter, capably running the auction desk along with Roberta O'Neill, reported final results of 148 lots offered by 19 sellers, with 112 lots sold for a total of \$4,023.00. Highest sales price of the day was \$400.00 for a beautiful factory AM-FM radio fully refurbished by Fred's Classic Auto Radios, and the lowest was several for \$1.00 lots.

The pizza lunch was enjoyed by all and during the lunch break Bryan Blackwell made a brief campaign speech, as he is running for a seat on the CORSA Board of Directors. Bryan spent the day kissing hands and shaking babies. No, wait, I've got that backwards.

Tomm Scalera also spoke of the new web site, <http://www.carshowsafari.com>, on which NJACE is already listed.



This year we broke in a new auctioneer, David Main, who discovered the thrill of victory (when a high bid was attained), and the agony of defeat (after standing on a concrete floor for four hours).

We also tried, for the first time, using "parts runners," who brought the items to be auctioned to the auctioneers instead of having the auctioneers running throughout the shop. Thanks to Bill Cohen, Ken Schiffner, and Tim Schwartz for adding efficiency to the proceedings.

We'll do it again next year!

Mark Your Calendars

Saturday, March 7

**Breakfast at the Empire Diner
Route 46 east, Parsippany**

Saturday, March 14

**Tech Session at Ashley's Auto Body
Hillside Avenue, Flanders**

Saturday, March 28

**Spring Driving Tour, to the Shore!
Meet at the Cheesequake Service Plaza**

Saturday, April 4

**Breakfast at the Empire Diner
Route 46 east, Parsippany**

Tech Session March 14 *one week later than usual!*

by Larry Ashley

We have been having tech sessions over the winter, but it has been brutally cold this year. On top of that, we have had a fair amount of snow and ice to deal with here at Ashley's Auto Body and everywhere else in North Jersey! So the tech session for March will not take place on the same day as the monthly breakfast on the 7th, but will be a week later on Saturday the 14th.

The ongoing theme of getting cars ready for the summer driving season and for the trip to the CORSA convention will continue this month and into the "car season" as I have always called it. Doesn't matter what model you have (as long as it's a Corvair), bring it to the tech session and we'll check it over. If you have a specific project you would like to address, contact me so that we can put your car on the agenda.

The big project at this month's tech session will be a drivetrain swap on a late-model convertible. President Brian's 1965 convertible will be on hand for the installation of the engine he is rebuilding. I don't know how many miles are on that engine, but they accumulated in both North American and Europe over the years. He is just about done with the rebuild and it will be ready to install at the tech session.

At the same time, the engine currently in his car is Ken Schiffner's and will once again become available for some use in the club, perhaps as a loaner engine again!

Spring begins this month and soon we hope to be seeing more Corvairs at our monthly breakfasts. Again, it doesn't matter what model you have, as long as it's a Corvair. Soon the snow and salt will be gone and we will be doing some tire kicking in the parking lot of the Empire Diner. See you all then!

The tech session takes place at Ashley's Auto Body on Hillside Avenue in Flanders. Larry Ashley can be contacted at lashley327@optonline.net.

NJACE Membership Meeting Minutes February 7, 2015 Parsippany, NJ

The meeting was called to order at 9:38 AM by President Brian O'Neill.

Upon motion duly made and seconded the minutes of the December meeting were accepted as published in the Fanbelt newsletter.

Treasurer Tim Schwartz reported a year-end balance of \$8,335.63, representing a net operating loss for the year of \$1,093.91. Upon motion duly made and seconded the Treasurer's report was accepted as presented. *[The complete Treasurer's Report is included in this issue.]*

Activities VP Rob Wanhouse reviewed upcoming plans, which include a Valentine's Dance with the Reflections Big Band, the annual Parts Auction, and a Spring driving tour coming up in March. June will include a "drive your Corvair night" and the CORSA Convention is in Knoxville, Tennessee in June.

Publicity VP Bob Marlow was not in attendance and so no Publicity report was presented.

Old Business: Brian O'Neill reported on the intent to form a convoy to go to the convention in Knoxville, and the club Tech Sessions for vehicle preparation for those interested in the trip. These Tech Sessions will generally take place on the same first Saturday of the month as the breakfasts, and will focus on getting vehicles ready for the trip (or for getting vehicles ready for safe local use for those who don't go). Extra sessions on non-Breakfast Saturdays may be added if needed. If members want to participate and need work done on their vehicles, as much advanced notice as you can supply should be provided to Larry Ashley.

New Business: Upon motion duly made and seconded it was approved to renew the club's membership in the Northeast Corvair Council and pay the \$20 annual dues.

Upon motion duly made and seconded the meeting was adjourned at 10:10 AM.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Frank Hunter, Secretary*

Yes, It's Dues Time Again!

Our membership year runs from April 1st through March 31st each year, and we offer both one- and two-year membership options. This means that for a number of persons, their membership is due for renewal this month. Are you among them?

(And thank you to the many members who renewed during the recent Parts Auction.)

A renewal form is included with this newsletter, and we'll have forms at the Empire Diner on February 7 and at the Auction on February 21. Dues are \$19 for one year or \$36 for two years. If your name is on the following list, your dues are due.

David Carney	Ray Coker
Greg Dittrich	Jim Dunn
Phillip Hack	Barbara Hardcastle
Dick Kellner	Al Kotkin
Robert Lohf	Joseph Librizzi
Peter Lougla	Rick MacNamara
Ronald Peles	Matt Posthumus
Rich Ribble	Ray Rodriguez
Dom Speronza	Ken Staats
James Tripodi	Rob Wanthouse
Richard Widman	Dorcey Winant

NJACE Treasurer's Report for the Full Year 2014

Checking Balance as of January 1, 2014		\$3,962.07
INCOME:		
Dues	\$ 861.00	
Checking Interest	3.27	
Parts Auction (net)	<u>605.00</u>	
	\$1,469.27	+ 1,469.27
EXPENSES:		
Food & Parties (net)	\$2,221.54	
NECC dues	20.00	
Printing	45.15	
Post Office Box rent	192.00	
State Filing fee	25.00	
Engine Stand	<u>193.47</u>	
	\$2,697.16	- 2,697.16
Checking Balance as of December 31, 2014		<u>\$2,734.18</u>

CD Balance as of January 1, 2014	\$5,467.47
CD interest for 2014	+ 133.98
	<hr/>
CD Balance as of December 31, 2014	<u>\$5,601.45</u>
Total in both accounts as of January 1, 2014	\$9,429.54
Total in both accounts as of December 31, 2014	\$8,335.63
	<hr/>
Operating LOSS for 2014	<u>\$1,093.91</u>

Notes:

2014 dues income was \$288 lower than 2013, and 2014 parts auction income was down by \$44 as compared to 2013. The January 2014 holiday party incurred a loss of \$1,423.90. There was zero 50/50 income during 2014, as no 50/50 drawings were conducted during the year. 50/50 income had been \$88 in 2013.

–Tim Schwartz, Treasurer

Positive Press

Al Kotkin and Dick Kellner each alerted us to a brief but entirely positive piece on the Corvair in a recent edition of an email newsletter circulated by Hagerty Insurance. Noting the anniversary of the publication of a certain book, Hagerty's headline read

As "Unsafe at Any Speed" Marks 50 Years,
Corvair Values Hit All-time High

Of course, ongoing inflation would account for Corvair prices going up – a car that sold for \$3000 ten years ago would likely sell for much more in identical condition today – but there has been a recent and noticeable spike in Corvair prices, which Hagerty correctly ties to increasing admiration for the cars.

Also recently, *Automobile* magazine published a nice piece on the Corvair, in which regular contributor Michael Jordan does a good job of capturing the Corvair's appeal.

There are still the occasional click-bait "Ten Worst Cars" pieces and the like out there, but the Corvair is finally losing its Rodney Dangerfield status.

NJACE Classified Ads

YOUR classified ad can be here!

Classified ad-style advertising in THE FANBELT is free for Corvairs and Corvair-related items.

Free Parts: The snow that shortened our Parts Auction last month meant that a few of the items I brought to the auction were never put up for bidding. But, because Sue and I are moving, I can't keep everything. Here are two items that I will give to any NJACE member who wants them:

Set of Four original 13-inch wheels for 1960-64 Corvair cars, nice, clean, round and true.

Pair of rear coil springs for 1964 Corvair convertible, '64 rear springs are different left-and-right, and this is a correct matched pair.

If you wish either of these, I can bring them to the March 7 breakfast. Bob Marlow, phone 201-444-1859, email vairtec@comcast.net

Call an Ambulance!

Steve Calandra and Tony Gervasio have each called our attention to a fascinating and in-depth

feature on the Corvanatics' web site about Corvair vans used as "professional vehicles" – ambulances, hearses, and similar. Check it out here:

<http://www.corvair.org/chapters/corvanatics/conversion.php>

Among the images in the feature is this one, showing members of the Pennington, NJ, first aid squad receiving the keys to their then-new 1962 Greenbrier ambulance.



Our 42nd 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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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.

The membership period extends from April 1st through March 31st.

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.

You should receive your first newsletter within four weeks of our receiving your application.

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 _____