

# the *Fanbelt*

new jersey association of CORVAIR enthusiasts

## NJACE on the Road

A few of the cars that participated in our annual Fall Foliage Tour on October 22



It was a picture-perfect day. (Well, except for the Corvair that got towed home.) Read all about it in this issue.

## NJACE Calendar of Events

### Saturday, November 4

Monthly breakfast at the Empire Diner, Rt. 46, Parsippany, 9 AM.

### Sunday, November 12

Wine, Women, and Song! A buffet lunch followed by a performance of *Iolanthe*, with our own Tim Schwartz in the chorus! See the details in this newsletter.

### Saturday, November 18

Tech Session presented by "Clean Dave" Main, on cleaning and waxing techniques for a show-winning Corvair. See the details in this newsletter.

### Saturday, December 2

Monthly breakfast at the Empire Diner, Rt. 46, Parsippany, 9 AM.

## Another Trophy Winner!



See Inside

*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](http://www.corvair.org/chapters/njace).

**On the cover:** David Kuhles attended the car show at the Warwick Drive-In on October 7 and came home with one of the "Top 30" awards presented at the show. Congratulations!



## November Club Activity No. 1

by *Tim Schwartz*

Hello all, this month we are aiming to culture everybody, and embarrass ME!

At 1:00 PM On Sunday, November 12, we will meet at Kailash Indian Cuisine in Ridgewood, NJ, for a buffet lunch. It is a BYOB place, so you can bring a bottle of wine or your favorite beer. Then we'll walk about two blocks to the Ridgewood United Methodist Church to see the 3:00 PM show of The Ridgewood Gilbert & Sullivan Opera Company's 80th anniversary production of Gilbert & Sullivan's "Iolanthe" in which your treasurer is singing in the chorus!



*[Editor's Note: Yes, Tim sings!]*

The price for the buffet lunch is \$17.00, and the restaurant needs a head count by Monday, November 6th, so please let me know by then. If you don't like Indian food, there are many other choices with cuisines spanning the globe within blocks. There is plenty of on-street parking, and you don't have to feed the meters on Sundays. You'll only have to park once.

At the church, the house should open about 2:40 PM, and seating is NOT reserved. We are getting a group rate of \$15.00 per person for the show. The catch is that I have to buy the tickets by Monday, November 6th. SO, if you want to get tickets at the group rate, please get payment to me by Monday November 6th!

You can pay me at the breakfast meeting, and if paying by check, please make the check

payable to "Ridgewood Gilbert & Sullivan." Children 12 and under are admitted free with an adult. Payment can also be mailed to me at: Tim Schwartz, 5 Riverview Lane, Ho-Ho-Kus, NJ 07423.

If you can't plan to be there in advance, you are still welcome to join us, but the tickets are \$22 at the door. If you have any questions about these, call or e-mail me. My phone number is 201-447-4299 and my email is [tim@bristolnj.com](mailto:tim@bristolnj.com).

Kailash Indian Cuisine is located at 22 Oak Street, Ridgewood, NJ, 07450, and the web address is [www.kailashindiancuisine.com](http://www.kailashindiancuisine.com).

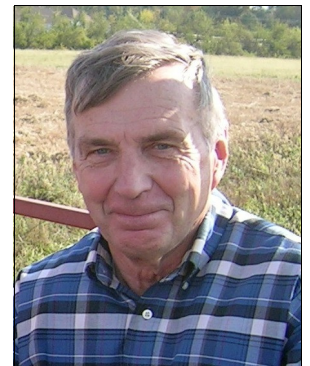
The Ridgewood United Methodist Church is located at 100 Dayton Street, Ridgewood, NJ 07450. The Ridgewood Gilbert & Sullivan Opera Company's web address is [www.ridgewoodgands.com](http://www.ridgewoodgands.com).

## November Club Activity No. 2

by *Brian O'Neill*

Mr. Clean Tells All!

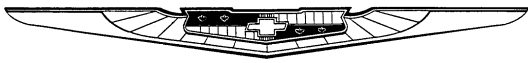
Do you want to learn Mr. Clean's secrets? Or should I say do you want to know how club member David Main gets his late-model coupe to sparkle and when trophies? Well if you do come to the November Tech Session on Saturday November 18 at the Garage Mahal. Of course you know the Garage Mahal is located is located at 45 Whipoorwill Lane in Sparta, NJ.



At this tech session which will begin at 9:30 AM on Saturday, November 18, David will demonstrate the techniques he uses to clean and polish a car. This will be more than a demonstration as those attending will be able to actually perform some of the work. The project will be done on a black on black 1965 Monza coupe recently purchased by the youngest grandson of our esteemed president. (Well, if not esteemed, at least tolerated.)

Lunch will be served so we need to know if you will attend. Contact me by email at [bmoneill@juno.com](mailto:bmoneill@juno.com) or by phone at 973-729-5586.

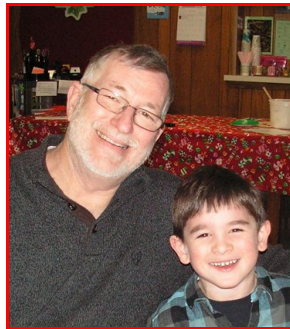
Oh, by the way, make note that the date is Saturday, November 18, not the same day as our November breakfast. Come out and learn some of Mr. Clean's secrets.



## Another "Drive That Corvair, It's a Small World" Story

by Ray Coker

Recently I was selling items at a flea market located five minutes from my house in Milton, PA. I had my Rampside loaded with "Items of Unspeakable Value" and was in full PT Barnum sales mode. The items for sale were mainly tools and related items one might find in a garage.



The Rampside was getting a lot of attention with the usual comments of does it catch on fire, does the motor really fall out, how much oil does it leak and after all that "is it for sale"?

Even though the Rampside was drawing mainly a male crowd I noticed a lady taking a few photos of it. She said her husband likes Corvairs and she just has to share these photos with him. She went on to say her husband recently drove his Corvair to the Corvair event in Connecticut or Massachusetts... or somewhere up there as she put it. I asked who her husband was and she said Dave then asked me if I knew Curt Stone.

It is a small world. During the recent trip to the Fall Classic at Clark's my wife and I drove the Rampside and caravanned with Dave, yes, this lady's husband Dave whom we previously met through Curt! WOW.

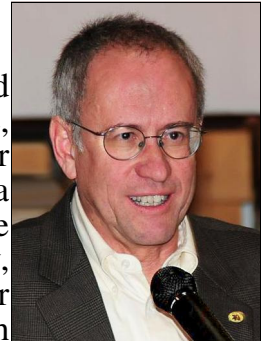
I've known Dave for a couple of years and I met his wife at a flea market while she is taking photos of my Corvair for her husband.

Drive that Corvair, you never know what may happen or who you may meet.



## Worth the Drive

by Bob Marlow



Ever since Sue and I retired and moved to Lavallette, NJACE events are kinda far away. It takes an hour and a half to reach either the Empire Diner or Ashley's Auto Body, with the result that we are far more selective about which events we attend.

But we did not want to miss the annual Fall Foliage Tour, and it was absolutely worth the trip.

This year's tour was different from those in the past, being somewhat shorter in total road miles so that it would terminate at the Sparta Historical Society's annual car show. But club VP Nick Ford put together a great route that found some very scenic roads between Point A (the Empire Diner) and Point B (the car show).

A dazzling day weather-wise greeted us – who would have guessed that on October 22 the only gripe would be how hot it was? – and some 70 cars turned out for the car show. They ranged from a Model A Ford that deservedly won a top prize to club member Gurdon Hornor's 800-foot-long Imperial, the poster car for this year's show.

The day was not without incident, however. Midway through the tour, the 1962 coupe of Tony Bermudez pulled up lame at the roadside. Tony, with his entire family along for the ride, made the decision to have AAA take the car back home rather than engage in a "roadside tech session." That evening the preliminary diagnosis was a failed axle bearing, which, if correct, would not have been fixable on the shoulder,

anyway.

All the other Corvairs completed the tour trouble-free (as did the compete selection of Chrysler minivans that joined us: A Chrysler Town & County, a Dodge Grand Caravan, and a Volkswagen Routan). Two additional Corvairs went directly to the car show, skipping the tour.

While at the car show we were able to enjoy the collections of the Sparta Historical Society in the organization's museum, an 1800s-era farmhouse containing numerous displays of local historical interest. Did you know that Thomas Edison, he of light bulb fame, had over 200 patents related to mining in northwest New Jersey?

Once the car show concluded we traveled a short distance to Lake Mohawk, where we enjoyed an excellent sunset meal on the boardwalk at the Lake Mohawk Country Club. Outdoor dining in October!

With a two-hour drive from Lake Mohawk back to Lavallette we did not get home until late that evening, but the whole day was worth the trip!



## Conventional Wisdom

Interested in attending a CORSA convention? 2018 may be your best opportunity, because the convention will take place for the first time in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, organized by our friends at the Western Pennsylvania Corvair Club. This is the closest to New Jersey since the 2012 convention in Sturbridge.

The dates are July 23-28, 2018, and the site is the DoubleTree Hotel in suburban Green Tree Borough, a short distance southwest of downtown Pittsburgh.

If you like planning ahead further, the 2019 convention will return to the site of the 2001 gathering, St. Charles, Illinois, about 40 miles west of Chicago, and in 2020 the convention will visit San Diego, site of the 1978 convention.

## Minutes

### of the General Membership Meeting Saturday, 10/7/2017, Parsippany, NJ

The meeting was called to order at 9:54 AM by President Brian O'Neill.

Upon motion duly made and seconded the minutes from May 7th membership meeting were approved as printed in the Fanbelt newsletter.

Upon motion duly made and seconded the Treasurer's Report was approved as printed in the Fanbelt newsletter.

Activities Report: Brian O'Neill announced the details of the Fall Foliage Tour on Sunday, October 22, starting at the Empire Diner and concluding at the Sparta Historical Society's museum and car show. There will be a tour of museum and a talk on Princess Whitedeer. Dinner at the Mohawk House to follow. Please notify Nick Ford or Brian O'Neill if you plan to attend.

Publicity Report: None presented.

Old Business: None was brought forth.

New Business: The annual Holiday Party was announced for January, 2018. Nominations for officers for 2018 were solicited, but no nominations were forthcoming from the floor. Next month the breakfast will return to the Empire Diner.

Upon motion duly made and seconded the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 AM.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Frank Hunter, Secretary*

Free Breakfast Drawing Winner –  
David and Elizabeth Malcolm

(Yes, it's still true, you can win a FREE breakfast just by showing up for our monthly gatherings at the Empire Diner!)

## All Burned Up

by Bob Marlow

By now you are likely to have seen one of the latest television commercials in the Farmers Insurance “We know a thing or two because we’ve seen a thing or two” series, in which a sports team mascot must bail out of a burning car during a parade. The car? A Corvair.

The appearance of this commercial lit up the online Corvair community, with numerous cries of righteous indignation ranging from “how *dare* they” impugn the Corvair’s reputation to annoyance at the fact that the Corvair in the parade is an early model while the Corvair in Farmers’ “Hall of Claims” is a late model.



People were going to write letters. Cancel policies. Organize boycotts.

Oh, please. North Korea is threatening us with nuclear weapons, so I can hardly get upset over the depiction of a Corvair on TV.

The Farmers series of commercials have been clever and amusing, and are based to a degree on actual claim experience. Somewhere, a car caught fire during a parade and Farmers honored a claim. Was the car in the actual claim a Corvair? Don’t know. Don’t care.

This commercial may not be the funniest in the Farmers’ series but the notion that the Corvair’s reputation is somehow tarnished by the ad is laughable.

Cars erupt in flames from time to time, the Corvair no more often nor less often than any other. There were voices of reason, in my view, in the online communities, as Corvair owners weighed in to offer opinions similar to mine: That the commercial was moderately amusing and largely inoffensive. Decades after *Unsafe at Any Speed* went out of print, Corvairs are still on the road. They survived Ralph Nader and they will survive a television ad.

By the way, the red early model convertible in the commercial clearly has no engine in it. Presumably, the stock Corvair engine was removed to permit the special-effects crew to create a fire back there while keeping the car mobile. Some other powertrain or means of propulsion is employed.

### NJACE Officers for 2017

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Speaking of officers, nominations (and volunteers) will be accepted at our monthly breakfast both this month and next. Election will take place in December.

# A Night ~~2 Months~~ at the Museum

by Bob Marlow

For the second time in two years, my 1963 Rampside is on display in the Vintage Automobile Museum of New Jersey. In 2015 our own Ken Schiffner organized an all-Corvair exhibit in which my Rampside and several other members' cars participated. This time theme of the exhibit is Air-Cooled, and so it includes Porsche, Volkswagen, Corvair, and even a Vespa scooter.

If you have not been there, the Vintage Automobile Museum of New Jersey is a modest-sized facility in Point Pleasant, accommodating no more than nine or ten cars at a time and sharing a building with the adjacent New Jersey Museum of Boating. The all-volunteer staff keeps traffic flowing to the museum by changing the entire exhibit every two months or so.

The display prior to this one featured an automotive timeline, cars from each decade, and after the Air-Cooled exhibit a display of holiday toys and vintage mini- and micro-cars will take them through to the new year. by the time you read this an exhibit consisting of vintage short-track race cars will be on display. The Air-Cooled exhibit is scheduled to conclude at the end of November.

My Rampside is at present kept company by three Corvairs cars belonging to members of the Bayshore Corvair Association, plus a Porsche 912, two Beetle convertibles, a Beetle sedan, a 21-window VW microbus, a dune buggy and the aforementioned Vespa. But, according to the volunteers who staff the museum during the hours that it is open (Wednesdays through Sundays), the Rampside is the most popular of the bunch. They may just be trying to puff me up, but they say that the Rampside generates the most comments and the most positive comments.



If true, this is not because my Rampside is a concours-quality gem. Far from it. But it presents nicely and most people today have no idea that Chevrolet ever produced such an unusual vehicle. Driving our Corvairs on the road (such as our recent Fall tour) and entering our Corvairs in car shows (such as the ones depicted in this and last month's newsletter) are great ways to introduce people to our distinctive and affordable classics. Putting them on display in the museum does so also.

Incidentally, I want to claim credit for the current exhibit, because last year I was approached by one of the museum principals about doing another all-Corvair display. At that

time I suggested that an air-cooled theme might be a better approach after our all-Corvair exhibit. They liked the idea, and reached out to owners of air-cooled vehicles.

If you wish to see the Air-Cooled exhibit, the museum is open Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Sunday, 12 noon to 4 pm, and Saturday, 10 am to 4 pm. Admission is free. At the same time you can visit the New Jersey Museum of Boating, which is right next door, in the same building.

At the end of November I will retrieve the Rampside and tinker with it over the winter months. In the meantime I am using the two months to clean the garage!

Ridgewood  
**Gilbert & Sullivan**  
 Opera Company

Presenting our 80th Anniversary production of

# Iolanthe



Sunday, November 12 at 3:00pm  
 Ridgewood United Methodist Church  
 (100 Dayton Street, Ridgewood, NJ)

Directed by Michael Blatt  
 Music Directed by Laura Ravotti

Since its sparkling 1882 premiere at London's new Savoy Theatre (the first to be fitted with electric lights, making all manner of magical effects possible), the fantastical satire *Iolanthe* has delighted audiences with its clever combination of romance, humor, political satire, and the memorable musical numbers that made Gilbert and Sullivan household names. In the opera, the fairy Iolanthe has been banished from fairyland because she married a mortal; this forbidden by fairy law. Her son, Strephon, is an Arcadian shepherd who wants to marry Phyllis, a Ward of Chancery. All the members of the House of Peers also want to marry Phyllis. When Phyllis sees Strephon hugging a young woman, she assumes the worst and sets off a climactic confrontation between the peers and the fairies. The opera satirizes many aspects of British government, law and society. The confrontation between the fairies and the peers is a version of one of Gilbert's favorite themes: a tranquil civilization of women is disrupted by a male-dominated world through the discovery of mortal love.

Featuring NJACE Treasurer Tim Schwartz in the chorus!

Don't forget, to sign up for the group rate ticket price you must let Tim Schwartz know not later than Monday, November 6. See all the details on Page 2 of this issue.

