



# Fanbelt

August, 2011

New Jersey Association of Corvair Enthusiasts

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



## Frank Etzel's 1966 500 coupe stops by a drive-in movie theatre (and we fantasize a little bit about the feature presentation)

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**In this issue:**  
**August car show information, and Dave Carney's first Corvair experiences**

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*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 camera-ready or 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).

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## Happening This Month:

- Breakfast Meeting, August 6
- Das Awkscht Fescht, August 7
- Hardyston Car Show, August 14

## Happening Next Month:

- Breakfast Meeting, September 3
- Pioneer Campground Weekend, Sept 9-10-11
- All Air-Cooled Show, September 18

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## On the Cover

Frank Etzel bought this 1966 500 coupe in the summer of 2010 with under 24,000 miles on the odometer – he's the car's third owner.

The photo was taken last October at the still-operating drive-in theatre just off Route 94 in Warwick, NY, minutes from the state line.

Do you have a distinctive photo of your Corvair? Or a story to tell like Dave Carney's in this issue? Send them to us!

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## Das Awkscht Fescht

...is an annual 3-day all-makes car show in Macungie, Pennsylvania, where the third day, Sunday, is the day for Corvairs.

For 47 years, Das Awkscht Fescht has been a summer tradition. It takes place in beautiful Macungie Memorial Park, covering more than 40 acres! This year's event runs August 5, 6 and 7.

Each year there is a "feature car," and this year's featured car is the Camaro.

On Friday the show is open to all types of vehicles as long as they are 25 years old and older. On Saturday the show is for stock production cars only, again 25 years old and older. Sunday is Car Club day, where more than 30 clubs assemble displays of their favorite cars.

Corvairs, organized by the Lehigh Valley Corvair Club, always come out in large numbers for the Sunday show. But the registration deadline was July 1st, so if you did not sign up in advance you cannot show your car.

But don't let that stop you! Das Awkscht Fescht is well worth attending even if you leave your Corvair at home. In addition to over 1,000, yes, 1000 cars, there is a flea market, a large craft fair, food and entertainment. Admission is \$7 for adults and \$2 for age 15 and under.

Macungie Memorial Park is just off Route 100 in downtown Macungie, easily accessible from I-78.

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## Hardyston Car Show

**Our Club Event for August**

The Hardyston Fire Department's 2011 car show will take place on August 14th (rain date one week later) at Wheatsworth Field in Hardyston, Sussex County, and this year NJACE is participating.

This is a car show, not an *antique* car show – there are classes for everything from 100-year-old classics to race cars to the latest tricked-out rides. There is no class in which Corvairs fit comfortably, so the plan at present is for the judges to simply pick a "best Corvair" if enough of our cars show up.

The show hours are 11 AM 'til 3 PM, and there will be coffee, food and drink available. (No alcoholic beverages are permitted.) The first 100 cars receive dash plaques, and a 50-50 raffle will be conducted during the day – last year's 50-50 winner won more than \$1,100 dollars!

Registration is \$10 per car in advance (before August 7) or \$15 per car at the gate. A PDF file of the registration form was sent via e-mail to all members during July, and can be found on the Hardyston Township web site.

The location is 183 Wheatsworth Road in Hardyston (Hamburg/ Hardyston ZIP 07419), at the Hardyston Middle School and right up the road from the famous Gingerbread Castle.



# My Corvair Story

by Dave Carney

My father purchased a brand new 1962 Corvair 700 sedan in October of 1961 when the '62s first came out. It was a beautiful car, light blue all around. It was the first non Ford car that we owned. He bought it at Demarest Chevrolet in Westwood, which at the time was one of the oldest Chevy dealerships in the country – it has since closed down.

The following pictures were taken when the car was new. In the first picture is my brother Jack, and in the second picture is my brother Mike with his friend Paul. I was barely one year old at the time.



It did not take long for us to have our first incident. Shortly after we bought the Corvair, My mother took me in the car to Ridgewood to go shopping. From what she tells me, it was a windy autumn day. She was taking me out of the child seat to put me in a stroller. Unfortunately, the wind blew the stroller into one of the rear quarter panels before

she was able to put me in it. To this day, she feels so guilty and responsible for how our Corvair was damaged.

I can remember laying in the back shelf of the Corvair while my mother drove me around as I would stare at the sky.

Overall, the Corvair was a good car for the six years that we had it. The only problem we experienced was vapor lock. My mother told me that the car would stall out suddenly while driving. We ended up giving the car to one of our neighbors. They kept it for a few more years and were happy to have it.

The car that replaced our Corvair was a 1968 Mercedes Benz 250 sedan. It was a nightmare, spending more time in the shop than on the road. We would have been better off if we kept our Corvair.

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## For Whom the Toll Tolls

by Anonymous Parkway Toll Collector

On the Garden State Parkway, a passenger car toll is \$1.00.

If the car is towing a one-axle trailer the toll goes up to \$3.00, two-axle trailer and it's \$4.00. One would think it would be \$1.50 & \$2.00, but no.

But how is this enforced? On the Parkway, in every toll lane, there is a treadle that counts the axles, and an infrared "light curtain" that knows if the vehicle is towing a trailer. These two devices work together, so the GSP knows what the collector is suppose to turn in.

For instance, a toll collector can not charge a car towing a two-axle trailer \$2.00, because the light curtain will pick up the trailer tongue, and "know" that it is one vehicle, not two. If the toll collector took only \$2.00, he or she would be short \$2.00 at the end of the shift. Do that a few times and the \$2.00 start to add up.

This same technology – the combination of an axle treadle and an infrared light curtain – is what enables the E-ZPass lanes to correctly compute the toll to be deducted from your account.

## Calendar of Events for 2011

*Mark your personal calendar with these great NJACE events and activities for the coming months:*

- ✓ **First Saturday** of each month, informal breakfast gathering at the Pronto Deli on Ridgedale Avenue in Cedar Knolls, 9:00 AM.
- ✓ **First Saturday** of each month, informal tech session at Ashley's Auto Body on Hillside Avenue in Flanders, following the breakfast. ==> *The Tech Sessions are on vacation for the summer, and will return in the Fall!* <==
- Sunday, August 7**, Car Club day at Das Awkscht Fescht in Macungie, Pennsylvania. Among the 1,000 cars in this show is typically a very large turnout of Corvairs. See the details on Page 2 of this issue.
- ✓ **Sunday, August 14**, Hardyston Fire Department Car Show at Wheatsworth Field. Rain date one week later. See the details on Page 2 of this issue.
- Weekend, September 9-11**, annual Camping Weekend at the Pioneer Campground in LaPorte, PA.
- ✓ **Sunday, September 18**, the Central Jersey VW Society's All Air-Cooled Show at the Swim and Sport Club of Flanders.
- ✓ **Wednesday, September 21**, quarterly business meeting, at the Black River Barn on Route 10 in Randolph.
- ✓ **Saturday, October 15**, our annual Fall Foliage Tour.

*All events marked ✓ are counted toward our annual Mary Paxton Participation Award and Bill Ableson Corvair Driver Award.*

## Meeting!

Mark your calendar for our next Quarterly Business Meeting, on **Wednesday, September 21**, at the Black River Barn on Route 10 in Randolph.

The Black River Barn is easily accessible from all directions. In fact, if you get on Route 10 westbound at I-287, it's just 11 miles west on Route 10.

The meeting will begin at 7:30 PM, but come early for dinner, we'll have access to a private room beginning at 6:30.

You can order from the restaurant's regular menu, and if you want to plan ahead the menu is online at <http://www.blackriverbarn.com>.

By the way, we call these "Quarterly Business Meetings" but they aren't really quarterly. The club by-laws stipulate that there will be four business meetings per year, but they do not have to be one per quarter. We schedule them where they best fit.

Mark the date! Wednesday, September 21!

## Air-Cooled is Cool!

The 7<sup>th</sup> annual "All Air-Cooled Gathering," presented by the Central Jersey Volkswagen Society, will take place next month in Flanders. Corvairs, being air-cooled, are welcomed and this year NJACE is supporting the car show on Sunday, September 18.

The event actually covers both Saturday and Sunday, but Sunday is the car show and permit us to quote the organizers: "Everyone is encouraged to enter the show, daily drivers to show cars, early or late model. As long as it's air-cooled, it's welcome."

We'll have full details in next month's newsletter, but in the meantime you can learn more at <http://www.allaircooledgathering.com>.

## Tech Session Hiatus

Remember, our monthly tech sessions at Ashley's Auto Body in Flanders are taking the summer off. The tech sessions will return in the Fall.

*NJACE Officers for 2011*

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**The CORSA Convention  
 is Over**  
**So it's time to  
 Get Ready for  
 the CORSA Convention**

During the last week of July, the Corvair Society of America held its annual convention in Denver, Colorado. By all reports it was a success.

NJACE President Brian O’Neill and Activities VP Ken Schiffner were among those who attended, and they will be happy to regale you with stories of the event.

But Brian and Ken weren’t there just as Corvair owners and enthusiasts. They were there because they will be playing key roles – along with many of us from NJACE – in the 2012 CORSA convention which will take place in nearby Sturbridge, Massachusetts.

The Northeast Corvair Council (NECC), an association of local Corvair clubs in the region and which includes NJACE as a member club, is the host organization for the 2012 convention. This means for the first time since the 1984 convention in Parsippany, NJACE will have an important part to play.

The NECC asks for and needs your help, as individuals and as NJACE members. We’ll have more convention specifics in the coming months, but for now mark the dates!



**Logo for the 2012 International Convention  
 of the Corvair Society of America**  
**An American Revolution**  
**July 25-28, 2012**  
**Sturbridge, Massachusetts**