

www.corvair.org/chapters/njace

No breakfast meeting for September. Two great events this month. The 3rd trip to the Pioneer Campground and our Quarterly meeting will be at Chevy's Fresh Mex Route 10 in Morris Plains.

Also, we're gearing up for the Corvair 50th Celebration in Cape May, NJ on October 2-4.

Details are in this issue.

P.S. The 60's sex symbol driver in September's Greenbrier -

Joey Heatherton

Greg Gorski

No
September Breakfast Meeting
for Labor Day Weekend

Hitch Up Yer Wagon
We're Headed Back To....
Pioneer Campground

See Page 2 - 4 for details-



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 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, PC-compatible or type-able copy. The Fanbelt is edited by Greg Gorski who can be contacted by email at jragmgorski@comcast.net or through the NJACE address noted above.

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.



The View Through the Windshield by Bob Marlow

Please make note of this change: Our quarterly meeting, scheduled for Wednesday, September 16, will take place at **Chevy's Fresh Mex** at the corner of Routes 10 and 202 in Morris Plains.

Why the change from the Mount Olive Grill? Because the **Mount Olive Grill** is **CLOSED**. Officially, the sign on the door says closed for renovations but that message is rarely a good one in the restaurant business and the telephone has been

disconnected. Fortunately, the folks at Chevy's are happy to have us and have set aside that same oddly-shaped room in which we have met previously.

While we won't have the more private room that was available to us at the Mount Olive Grill nor will we have the Mount Olive Grill's audio/video facilities, Chevy's is more centrally located for more of our membership. It is less than a mile and a half west of I-287 on Route 10.

Come early for dinner; we will conduct the formal part of the meeting beginning at 7:45 PM. Our meeting agenda will include final preparations for the big 50th anniversary weekend in Cape May. Drive your Corvair and enjoy dinner with your Corvair family.

But even before that, many club members and Corvair enthusiasts from elsewhere will be journeying to Ray & Kathy Coker's **Pioneer Campground** in LaPorte, Pennsylvania, on the weekend of September 12-13. It's our third annual Corvair Camping Weekend, and it has less to do with the cars and much more to do with the friendships throughout the hobby. We always enjoy a great time around the campfire Saturday evening, and Ray leads us on a scenic road tour Sunday morning. Complete campground weekend details appear on page 3-4 in this newsletter.

Then, of course, on the first weekend in October we hit that big milestone: **50 Years** since the introduction of the **Chevrolet Corvair**. As fate would have it, introduction day, October 2, 1959, was a Friday all those years ago, and this year October 2nd falls on a Friday as well. That's why we're having a party in Cape May that evening, complete with the unveiling of the new 1960 Corvair. It's also why we are conducting a non-judged Corvair car show in downtown **Cape May** during the town's annual **Octoberfest** on that Saturday.

A separate article in this issue provides you with what you need to know for the once-in-a-lifetime **50th Anniversary** weekend, so check it out, and make sure that you are part of this historic event.

Sue and I will be at all three: The quarterly meeting, the camping weekend, and the **50th Anniversary Weekend**. We look forward to seeing you there as well.

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Corvair Camping Weekend

Our friends Ray and Kathy Coker at the Pioneer Campground in LaPorte, Pennsylvania, have scheduled their third annual Corvair Camping weekend for September 11-12-13.

What started in 2007 as a small event for NJACE members is now being promoted regionally and advertised in the area newspapers to bring out even more Corvair owners and enthusiasts for a low-key laid-back weekend of fun. We know already that Smitty Smith of Virginia Beach, Virginia, is making the trip with his coast-to-coast Lakewood and camping trailer.

The Pioneer Campground can accommodate those who camp in everything from pup tents to massive motorhomes. In fact, in the two previous events, we have seen just about all the possible combinations -- members pitching tents, towing pop-up trailers, towing travel trailers, driving motorhomes -- even camping in Corvans!

For those who lack so much as a tent, the campground has a limited number of camping cabins available, but these sell out early so call today (contact information below).

For those who just can't accept the idea of sleeping in the great outdoors, motel rooms are available at the Sullivan County Roadhouse at the end of the road that leads to the campground, but these too are limited so don't delay. The Roadhouse in fact can serve your needs if you don't want to cook over a campfire, because breakfast, lunch and dinner are available.

This is an unstructured weekend of relaxation and laughs for the whole family. Corvair owners are invited to swap stories, trade parts, and show off cars, but it is less about the cars and more about family fun around the campfire. We have usually laughed ourselves silly as the sky grows dark and the embers glow. The pool will be open, the hiking trail will be available for walking, the softball and volleyball fields will be open, and the game room will be available for the kids. Well-behaved pets are welcome. You can ask Ray about some of his innovative activities such as the Wet Hay Ride and the Cardboard Boat Races. There will be a driving tour of the region on Sunday morning -- last year's tour included a stop at a private collection of beautifully restored Chevrolets, and in the prior year we toured to an impressive mountain overlook.

Bring your charcoal and cooking utensils for outdoor cooking....Bring your "grillables" and any other specialty for a fun weekend....Bring your coolers and adult beverages if you wish....Bring your cameras.... Bring long sleeves; it can be in the 50's at night.

It's important to make your reservations in advance! You can also log on to the website and make reservations online. Don't forget the bug spray, lawn chairs, flashlight/lantern, sun screen, bathing suit and walking/hiking shoes.

Bring your Corvair? Of course, we want to see as many as possible. But if it is not possible to bring your Corvair because you have a travel trailer to tow or a Winnebago to drive, that's okay too. People are what make this hobby. Give Ray and Kathy a call and reserve your site. Their number is 570-946-9971.

We look forward to having you join us!



**Sullivan County's
Quality Campground**

P.O. Box 185 • Route 220

LaPorte, PA 18626

570-946-9971

email: pioneercg@epix.net

www.pioneercampground.com

Attached a map to the right as a reference and written directions below.

DIRECTIONS: From Exit 4 - Route 80 west and exit on to route 42 north. At the intersection of route 220 - make a right and follow it through Sonestown to Pioneer Campground.



NJACE WILL BUY YOUR BREAKFAST!!!!

Starting with this month's breakfast meeting, one lucky member will have their breakfast check paid by the club. In an effort to boost attendance, while at the same time possibly easing in a slight way the financial pinch that most of us are feeling, a drawing will be held at each breakfast meeting. The winner of the drawing will have their breakfast check paid for by the club.

*The club payment is limited to the member whose ticket is drawn, **not** to that member's entire family, friends, and table-mates.*

This promotion will continue through 2009, so come on out to our monthly breakfasts!

50th Anniversary Corvair Coin

Every Corvair 50th Coin will come with its own presentation jewelry box, a premium steel box covered and lined in black velour. In addition, each coin will include a protective crystal clear plastic capsule which opens easily if you wish to examine the coin closely. Also included is an Authenticity Certificate signed by the artist.

Purchase this coin at the Corsa website:

http://members.corvair.org/index.php?mod=product&id_prd=27



50 Years in the Making by Bob Marlow

It is now only about a month away – the 50th anniversary of the introduction of the Corvair. Those of you who are CORSA members (wait, that's everyone, right?) have been reading this year in the CORSA Communique about the milestones that have been reached so far, the 50th anniversary of Chevrolet's announcement, the 50th anniversary of the start of production, and so on. Soon, we'll hit the biggie, the 50th anniversary of the day the Corvair was unveiled to the public.

Since last December, a committee of NJACE members, led by long-time member and past officer Ron Peles, has been planning a special commemorative weekend in historic Cape May. This project has been undertaken in cooperation with neighboring Corvair clubs, including the Delaware Valley Corvair Club and the Bayshore Corvair Association. The last elements are falling into place. Here are the highlights:

We will be headquartered at the La Mer Beachfront Inn, which, trust us on this, is the nicest place in all of Cape May. We know, we visited them all. On Friday evening, we will re-enact the introduction of the Corvair with the unveiling, just as it was done in the showrooms 50 years to the minute earlier, of the “new” 1960 Corvair.

We have the same showroom speeches and sales pitches that were used 50 years ago, and there will be music and refreshments and diversions. If the weather cooperates this will all take place poolside at the hotel. If the weather does not cooperate we will gather in a large meeting space in the hotel for the same celebration.

On Saturday, an all-Corvair car show will take place in a park in downtown Cape May at the same time as the historical town's annual Octoberfest street festival. This means that there is plenty for the family to do besides look at cars, all within easy walking distance. Plus, the Octoberfest brings crowds to town who will see our special cars on this special occasion. We will have contests and games also, to entertain the public and ourselves.

Plenty of time will be allowed not only for you to explore Cape May, but also for you to enjoy dinner in one of the very many great restaurants in town. You will want to make sure that your dinner does not end too late, because back at the hotel Saturday night we have a special treat planned: A private screening of the Best Picture of 1960, Billy Wilder's “The Apartment” starring Jack Lemmon and Shirley MacLaine. Our movie party will include fresh-popped popcorn and other movie theatre treats from 50 years ago – including a cartoon!

On Sunday a group brunch is planned, to be followed by a Corvair driving tour of Cape May that will conclude at the 150-year-old Cape May Lighthouse. The lighthouse is not the only attraction at the end of the tour, there are walking trails through the 153-acre natural area, which will be alive with migratory bird at that time of year, plus a WWII bunker and the remains of the S.S. Atlantis, a ship made of concrete, yes, concrete. Fascinating photos of this famous ship can be seen at:

<http://www.concreteships.org/ships/ww1/atlantus/death.html>.

Throughout the weekend, other things will be happening, including having representatives of the Stock Corvair Group on hand both to document details of original Corvairs and also to help you understand why the collection of this information is important to the preservation of Corvair history.

History will be acknowledged, collected, and made on this weekend. All in all, this is a weekend that you will not want to miss. For last-minute information, you may contact Ron at rpeles@embarqmail.com.



Cruising Around the Speedway by Bob Marlow

On Friday evening, August 14, Wall Stadium Speedway near Belmar played host to a "Cruise Night," and Sue and I drove down in our Rampside to partake. Aside from our wanting to take a trip in the Rampside, which has been roadworthy for only a few weeks now, I wanted to go to this particular cruise night because it was more than a parking lot gathering – it included actual cruising.

Well, not the sort of Main Street cruising that gave rise to the entire cruise night genre, but laps around the speedway itself. I am well-acquainted with Wall Stadium, having attended racing events there for more than 40 years and having driven it previously in a service truck during racing events. But the opportunity to tour the track in the company of other enthusiasts, and in our 43-year-old Rampside, was appealing.

Predictably, we were the only Corvair there, out of more than 100 cars. And predictably, many of those cars were Mustangs and Camaros and street rods rather than the vintage classics that I enjoy. But there were still plenty of interesting old cars to admire, ranging from a perfect Model A Ford to a beautiful 1950 GMC pickup to a clean 1968 Pontiac LeMans that was not a GTO. How there were three Triumph TR-7s and only one Corvair is puzzling.

The cruise night was scheduled from 6 PM to 9 PM, so we brought a picnic supper and set up our lawn chairs by the lowered ramp of the Rampside. We overheard a high number of comments along the lines of "I haven't seen one of these in a long time!" After eating we strolled around the cars, then got back in the Rampside and got on line for the track tours.

If you attended the club's "Night at the Races" event several years back you'll know that the Wall Stadium track is a high-banked track, banked 30 degrees in the corners. By comparison, the NASCAR track in Daytona is banked 31 degrees in the corners. As you drive around at low speeds in an old truck with a bench seat, you tend to slide toward the driver's door. As you increase your speed to, say, 25 or 30 mph, it becomes hard to comprehend how drivers race around the place at over 100 mph.

After about a dozen laps, our group of ten cars returned to the pit area, where we enjoyed chatting with new and old friends before starting the drive home. It was a relaxing evening with which to end the work week. The speedway has been conducting these cruise nights only monthly, and only two have taken place so far without the weather causing a cancellation, but if they return to the schedule next year we may wish to consider a Corvair invasion.



Corsa Convention Review by Ken Schiffner

The 2009 CORSA Convention was held July 13-18th at the Wyndham Riverwalk Hotel in Jacksonville, Florida. "Riverwalk" means that the hotel is situated at the wooden riverwalk that meanders along the shore of the St. Johns River...just on the opposite side from downtown Jacksonville. Great venue...plus the sponsoring clubs did an excellent job in coordinating the various events.

Some NJACE members attended. The trek was about 1000 miles one way from the Garden State and one, Tim Schwartz, drove his Greenbrier camper. The O'Neill's (with family) and Ken Schiffner attended.

The quality of the Concours display was outstanding! The sponsoring club arranged to have many of the Concours vehicles aligned near the Riverwalk....making for quite an impressive display. The local newspaper and TV station covered the event thus giving the Corvair some positive publicity. Though the days were hot and humid, they were expected and the events compensated for the Florida heat. Your Events VP volunteered to be a Judge and got assigned to....under carriage but became part of a great group of Judges (if you haven't ever been a Judge at a convention, you should really try it....very educational and fun).

An interesting "attendee" was a rare Corvair "Dynatrac" (officially a CL-91/XM-571Dynatrac). Picture follows. It was trailered to the convention but actually was fired up and unloaded...straight backwards... since the steering mechanism hadn't been restored (i.e. "fixed") yet. The lightweight Dynatrac was powered by a derated (from probably 80 hp), 65 hp Corvair engine configured with high level air intake and exhaust for use in flooded conditions....like rice paddies. It used an interesting gimbaled power take off at the rear that could be used to power a tag-along tracked vehicle or other devices. It was initially designed as an air-drop capable ammunition and personnel transport vehicle but never really was successful in that regard. Reports are that its primary use in Vietnam was transporting garbage....yes somewhat embarrassing but true. A Dynatrac engine was recently rebuilt as a CPF project and the engine will reside in a museum near Buffalo, NY.

The Car Show featured a People' Choice award and, drum roll please....***Tim Schwartz won one for the Greenbrier!*** Conventions are not easy to run and certainly applause at the banquet for the host Florida CORSA chapters was very well-deserved!

The link below will give you a video highlight of the recent CORSA Convention in Jacksonville, Florida, made by the Florida Times Union Newspaper. There is a shot of Tim Schwartz's Greenbrier, one of the Corvairs driven to and from the convention. http://jacksonville.com/interact/blog/amanda_warford/2009-07-14/2009_chevrolet_corvair_convention



NJACE Calendar of Events

Saturday/Sunday; September 12th & 13th- Trip to Pioneer Campground.

* *Wednesday, September 16th, 2009 - Quarterly meeting at Chevy's Fresh Mex. Meeting time is 7:45pm. 1900 Route 10 Westbound side, at the intersection of Tabor Ave [Route 53] and Route 10. Phone [973] 644-2660 [973] 644-2180*

* *Friday-Sunday, October 2-4, 2009 - Corvair 50th Anniversary Celebration, LaMer Hotel, Cape May, NJ*

* *Other October and November activities to be determined.*

Events marked with an [] count towards the NJACE Mary Paxton & Bill Ableson Awards.*

For Sale: 1968 Monza convertible. Yellow with black interior. New paint, top and interior. 140-hp, Powerglide, 32,000 original miles. Runs great. \$9500. Call Joe Gassik, 551-587-0552 (Hackensack area).

Some Pictures from the NJACE August Picnic - Exquisitely hosted by Bill and Marguerite Cohen!



Dick & Janet Cashion lounging on the Deck.



Bob & Dave competing for the "leg" shot of the day



An NJACE group photo before enjoying the "Beatlemania Again" show at Camp Jefferson.