



ACORNNEWS

ACORNS - Association of CORvair NutS
Rochester, NY - Corsa Chapter 148
August 2025 Newsletter

Pres Says by Brandon Carmo

Hello ACORNS!

What a July! I feel like I have been running around like a chicken with my head cutoff! I've been working on a variety of projects, some on the home, some on the cars, and some at work. Also voyages to Pennsylvania and back to Massachusetts to visit family. It's been a whirlwind. Now we are in August and the last batch of summer activities are being crammed in.

The big event for August will be the **ACORN 50th Anniversary Picnic on Saturday, August 16th!!**

Thank you to all those who have responded. 18 folks have responded. I will email those who have RSVP'd my address separately. A rain location has been secured in the event of rain.

Also, Dave Ellis has been helping to organize Tech Sessions for a variety of member projects upcoming. Paul Rader has a pending electric fuel pump conversion project, George Conboy has a clutch replacement project, and Dick Gilbert has a throwout bearing project looming.

The first tech session to address these projects is going to take place on Saturday, August 23rd at 10am at the Rush Rod and Piston Club. Work will begin on the George Conboy project. Contact Dave Ellis for further.

If you are interested in a Tech Session or need help, please feel free to state the date and time that you are interested in working on your car. It doesn't necessarily need to be a Saturday or Sunday. Many members of the club are retired and I often have days off midweek, as my schedule rotates. Usually I try to get in a couple of hours of wrenching on my cars between 10am and 1pm when I have to work in the afternoon. It is possible a few members could possibly have time other than on a weekend.

Also, beware of scam emails. It appears that several emails have been circulating using similar emails to member emails with slight changes. They are usually asking for money. Do not interact with these emails. I do not ask for people for money or gift cards by email, or really at all.

See you all soon and be well,
-Brandon

From the VP's Desk:

Hi Everyone,

I hope everyone had a nice July. Not too many changes on this side of things. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the picnic!

Mark

Treasurer's Report

Not much movement during July although we did pick up payment of dues from one more member. There are STILL a handful of members that have not paid for 2025. Please do so asap.

Existing members will pay the full \$12 for the year. You can write me a check, made out to me, Mark Webster, and I will cash it and deposit the funds into the club fund on your behalf, or you can Venmo me the dues and I will do the same. My address is

Mark Webster
607 Winona Blvd
Rochester, NY 14617

Venmo me at:
@mwebby-1964

Club funds going in to May :	\$1263.67
Expenditures:	\$00.00
Income (Dues - two members):	\$12.00

Club funds as of 08/07/2025: \$1299.67

We also still have \$95.00 in the special funds money.

ACORN July Activity Report

WNY MG Car Club Show

July 13, 2025

ACORNers attending:

- Jim Cleveland - [driving my '64 Spyder convertible]
- Chris Grillo - '64 Monza convertible
- Allan Lesser - '65' Corsa convertible
- Brandon Carmo - President - '61 Lakewood
- Jim Bartasevich - Secretary & Membership - '61 Lakewood

V.P. & Treasurer Mark Webster was unable to attend

Show Review

The above list of members and cars attended the show at the NY Museum of Transportation. Show entries were down, probably because of the threatening weather forecast. However, we had a nice turnout. Jim Cleveland drove my Spyder and I drove my Lakewood. My '69 is in temporary storage to make room in our garage to pile "stuff" prior to moving to our new townhome in Canandaigua this fall. If it was available, I would have brought it. Dave Ellis volunteered to drive it. The highlight for me was that my Lakewood won the Corvair class!

Despite the forecast, it turned out to be a perfect summer day, although it was warmer than usual. However, the grounds of the museum had numerous trees, and the building was open to see the exhibits and get out of the sun for a bit. On the way home, it was another matter!

We left as the sky began to darken. As we reached Rush, taking NY 251, the rain began. We pulled off, and we put up the top on the Spyder. Motoring along, the clouds opened and it POURED! THEN the Lakewood started to miss and got to the point where it would quit altogether. I would keep rolling, dropped down to third, then to second, and it fired up again. My first thought was: Fuel pump. If it wasn't raining, I would have stopped to check to see if the accelerator pump was squirting gas. If not, this would have confirmed my initial diagnosis. However, the pouring rain made me decide to try to keep going. While rolling, the car would sometimes fire up again, and I could keep going. Other times I came to a stop but got going by using the started in second gear [it's a 4-speed] until it fired again. Finally, we made it to my house and I parked it for the rest of the day. Jim left, and I parked the Spyder, getting soaked by the rain.

Later that day, the rain stopped, so I checked the fuel situation on the Lakewood. There was a normal squirt from the accelerator pump. So . . . ignition check was next. I installed the basic Pertronix years ago [I have to check my maintenance record to see when.]. It's time must have been up. I had another one so I installed it, and the car started immediately.

The Spyder has a Crane XR-700 [I think; I don't remember for sure without going out and looking at it.]. For it and the Lakewood, I carry a points plate with a set of points and condenser in each car just for such an occasion. If it wasn't raining, I would have changed it over beside the road.

All's well that ends well!

submitted by Jim Bartasevich

Meeting Minutes

Old Business

No Meeting

New Business

No Meeting





Message to ACORNS from the Powers Family

Our family is so appreciative of the ACORNS' honoring of Richard's (Dick's) memory at this year's sports car festival on July 13 at the NY Museum of Transportation. He would be so pleased at the honor and kind remembrances of his friends, as are we on his behalf. Thank you for the photos. We regret having to miss the show this year, but your thoughtfulness warms our hearts with gratefulness at the happy memories of all Richard's friends whose camaraderie he so cherished.

Many thanks for this honor and remembrance on his behalf.

Bethel, Rachel, and Family

Class Sponsors

ALFA ROMEO Sponsored by AlphaBuffs Honoring the memory of Dick Powers

CORVAIR Sponsored by ACORN in honor and memory of Dick Powers

DESI BENET BEST WOMAN ENTERED CAR
Sponsored by Bill Benet

MGB Chrome Bumper Sponsored by Browncroft Garage

TRIUMPH Sponsored by Greater Rochester Triumph Touring Club In Memory of Ned Paulsen and George Haynes



Some useful tips if you're having car trouble on the road

Troubleshooting Engine Quitting from Hagerty Hack Mechanic 06-24-25

From: corvair@frontiernet.net (corvair@frontiernet.net)

To: corvair@frontiernet.net

Date: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 at 04:12 PM EDT

- Death from fuel starvation tends to come on gradually and feels like the car is running out of gas (because it is), whereas death from lack of spark tends to be pretty binary.
- If there really is no spark, the coil isn't firing, so when you're cranking the engine, the tach usually sits at zero, whereas if there *is* spark, the tach will usually bounce while cranking.
- If you've got starting fluid with you, pull off the air cleaner and spray it into the carb or throttle body while someone is cranking the engine and holding the throttle partially open. If the car starts, runs for a few seconds, then dies, you've got spark, which means you almost certainly have a fuel delivery problem. This could be the fuel pump, a clogged fuel filter or mesh screen, a stuck needle valve on the carb float, or a cracked rubber line causing the pump to suck air instead of fuel.
- If you have no starting fluid to test with and if the car dies but, after sitting for a short while, starts and runs only to die again, the problem is likely a clogged fuel filter that gets unclogged when fuel is no longer pushing sediment up against the screen.
- If you've ruled out fuel, the odds are strong there's no spark, but you need to check. On post-mid-1990-ish cars with coil-on-plug ignitions, you can't check for spark directly, but on old-school distributor ignitions (which are the ones where spark often fails), you can.
- If you have an inexpensive test light, connect the lead to the "+" coil terminal, stick the probe on the "-" terminal (or switch them; it doesn't matter), and have someone crank the engine. The test light should flash, indicating that the coil is being triggered to fire. If it doesn't, odds are strong that either the points aren't opening, the condenser is bad or ungrounded, or one of the wires has pulled or broken off the coil.
- If the test light *does* flash, pull the thick wire out of the center of the distributor cap, use rubber-insulated pliers to hold it 1/4-inch from a good ground, and have someone crank the engine. If there's no spark there, the coil may be bad (is being triggered but isn't firing properly), though in my humble opinion this is unlikely.

2025 ACORN CALENDAR

August 16 [Saturday]: ACORN 50th Anniversary Picnic!

Hosted by Pres Brandon; Historian Dave Ellis is preparing a retrospective look at the club. See details on previous page!

August 23 [Saturday]: George Conboy Clutch Replacement Tech Session, 10AM
Rush Rod and Piston Club

September 14 [Sunday]: Corvairs on the Hills, Fred Marsh [tentative]

October 18: Fall color tour and meal; TBA

November 15: Year-end dinner or breakfast

NOTE: If you have something you want to do to maintain or repair or just have questions about your Corvair, contact us! You don't have to wait for a date on the calendar above.

Car Nuts Breakfast: A group of car nuts meets for breakfast the second Thursday of the month at Bay Front Restaurant, 1075 Empire Blvd. Some of our members have attended, including me. You'll be with about 40 other car nuts. You know what that means: Talking about cars, of course! In good weather, it's almost like a mini car show in the parking lot too. It's a good time, so come on out!



Thursday, August 14, 9:30 at
The Bay Front Restaurant
1075 Empire Boulevard, Rochester
(585) 482-2247

Not an official club event, but a casual meeting of car enthusiasts. Join in if you have the time, want a good, no-frills breakfast and enjoy plenty of car talk. No RSVP needed, just show up, the Bay Front has room to find seating....and LOTS of parking!! hope to see you soon!...Annabelle

Next one should be 9/11!

ACORN OFFICERS

President/Editor: Brandon Carmo _____ bwcarmo@gmail.com
Vice President/Treasurer: Mark Webster _____ mpwebster66@yahoo.com
Secretary: Jim Bartasevich _____ corvair@frontiernet.net
Historian: Dave Ellis _____ ewe@rochester.rr.com
Webmaster: Marissa Andolino _____ smandolin@outlook.com

From the editor...

I'm excited to have the opportunity to work on the ACORNews! I am looking for tech article suggestions, as well as listings for parts or cars for sale. I am also interested in photos of member cars, ACORN outings, or photos and descriptions of any project car updates or new acquisitions you may want to share.

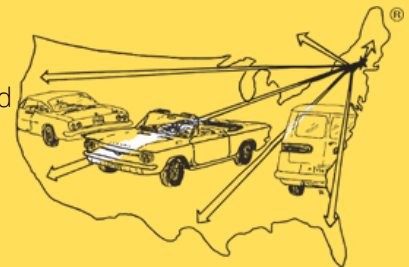
Submissions can be sent to bwcarmo@gmail.com

Thanks, Brandon Carmo

Clark's Corvair Parts®

Our catalog lists over 15,000 parts for your Corvair. We carry engine parts, body panels, upholstery and much more! There are 1,000's of reproduced items available, pages of technical information and lots of other helpful hints.

Check us out at www.corvair.com or call today to order a copy of our printed catalog. You will quickly see why we are the world's largest supplier of parts and all your other Corvair needs. Clark's - More than Parts!



Clark's Corvair Parts®
(413)625-9776

400 Mohawk Trail, Shelburne Falls, MA 01370
www.corvair.com email: clarks@corvair.com

PARTS SALES POLICY

We all know that there are Corvairs "out there" that are owned by people who do not belong to CORSA or ACORN. It was agreed and voted on to make our parts supply available only to our members.

Here are the specifics:

If a non-member contacts us for parts, we'll politely explain our policy and ask if he or she would like to become a member.

NOS parts will be sold at a 50% discount from Clark's prices.

Used parts will be sold cheaply!

FOR SALE

140hp Series II Convertible Corvair for sale, needs starter

Contact Will Seymour for details/pricing: 585-281-1706,

wseymour@rochester.rr.com



180 Turbo Engine for sale

call Jim Mruk 585-889-4587 for details

Parts include:

- Block I0420RL complete w/crank & cam
- Turbo housing complete 3856709
- 180 Distributor 1110329
- Intake crossover
- Set of 110 heads 3878566
- Turbo head 3856762
- Carter YH carb
- Air cleaner housing
- Misc. brackets & Tubing
- Series 2 Engine sheet metal parts

Dean LoBrutto has some parts that he is looking to move along.

Shoot him an email if you're interested.

Contact him at 585-899-0867 or dean_afs@yahoo.com

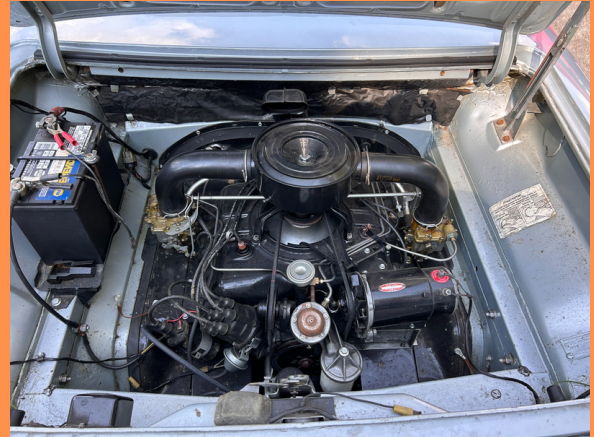
Nice set of dog dish hubcaps for Vairs: \$80



Some turbo parts
available too, contact
Dean for more info



The following car is for sale by Fred Marsh [607-937-5223]:



**'60 Monza -
Restored,
like new.
Asking
\$9000**



AVAILABLE PARTS FROM THE BARTASEVICH PARTS STASH

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ 1 - FC 4 speed inst. cluster [it has the shift points on the speedo] ❖ 2 - FC glove box doors ❖ 1 - Early car glove box door [don't know the year] ❖ 1 - Late Delco AM push button radio ❖ 1 - Early [I think] Motorola AM push button radio [a button is broken] ❖ 1 - Corsa inst. cluster & glove box door [dusty] ❖ 1 - Corsa inst. cluster used as a parts donor ❖ 1 - Corsa air cleaner with carb cross-over ❖ 2 - Starters ❖ 1 - Alternator ❖ 2 - '65-'66 "A" pillar interior trim ❖ 1 - NAPA Belden plug wire set [NOS?] but in the box for a while ❖ 1 - Late power convertible top switch & bracket ❖ 4 - Wiper/washer units ❖ 1 - Washer jug and bracket [rust on bracket] ❖ 1 - Washer bottle bracket [some rust] ❖ 6 - wiper arms ❖ 1 - NOS '65-'69 clutch rod | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ 3 - Clark's C2754 rear wheel cyl. rebuilding kits ❖ 3 - Clark's C2745 front wheel cyl. rebuilding kits ❖ Multiple stainless steel headlight rings [they hold the headlight to the light unit] ❖ 1 - late headlight unit ❖ 1 - FC headlight unit ❖ 2 - magnesium cooling fans; 1 for a '64, 1 for '65-'69 [both have surface corrosion] ❖ 5 - Various oil coolers; low to high HP ❖ 2 - Front hubs [I think for an FC] ❖ 2 - Early rear car shocks, used but work okay ❖ 5 - Early & late gen. & alt./oil fill/oil filter castings ❖ Multiple fan idler pulleys ❖ 1 - '62 80 HP PG distributor ❖ 2 - '63 102 HP distributors ❖ 2 - '64-'68 110 HP distributors ❖ 1 - '69 95 PG distributor ❖ Multiple clamps for ignition coils ❖ Multiple '62 stop light lenses ❖ Multiple '65 stop light lenses ❖ Multiple '66-'69 stop light lenses |
|---|---|

FOR SALE

ACORN PARTS SUPPLY

CONTACT: DAVE ELLIS: 585-503-9445, dellis1@rochester.rr.com

Fastener boxes now located at Mark Webster's shop containing items such as 1/4-20 bolts, top shroud bolts, distributor hold down brackets, u-joint keepers, and other specialty items

ACORN Parts Supply

AIR CLEANERS
ALTERNATORS
ARMRESTS
ASHTRAYS
AXLESHAFTS, SII
AXLE,RR,S1,BEARINGS,NOS
BALANCE TUBES
BUCKET SEATS
BUCK.SEAT-CHRM SIDE TRIM
COIL SPRINGS
CONV. TOP LATCHES
CYLINDER HEADS
DIFFERENTIALS
DISTRIBUTORS
DOOR HANDLS-EXTERIOR
ENGINE BLOCKS
ENG. LID SUPP.BRKT ASSY
ENG. SHEET METAL PCS
ENG. TOP COVERS, S.M.

Contact: Dave Ellis; 585-227-2439; dellis1@rochester.rr.com

EXH.C/O PIPE,84/95/110 NEW
EXH SYSTM,COMPL,USED,84-110
FASTENERS, ALL TYPES
FLYWHEEL RETAIN, RINGS, MAN.
FRT PNL EMBLM-1960 MODEL
FUEL PUMP RODS
FUEL PUMP RETAIN. BOLT ASY.
GLASS,ALL
GLOVE BOX DOORS
HEADLAMP BEZELS, S1&2
HEADLAMP/TURN SIGNAL, FRT
HEATER COMPONENTS
HORNS
HORN BUTTONS, STR COLMN
INSTR/DASH CLUSTERS,S1&2
INTAKE TUBES
INTERIOR TRIM PARTS
"JUGS" S1&S2 ???
LIFTERS, HYDR.

MOTOR MOUNTS, S1&S2
MOTOR MNT TO ENG BRKTS
OIL CLRS, SEVERAL TYPES
OIL FLTR/ALT MOUNT HSNGS
PISTONS W/CON RODS, SI&2-??
POWERGLIDE TRANS
RADIOS
STARTERS
TAILLIGHT/REAR -PARTS-S1&S2
THROTTLE LINKAGES 2 CARBI
TURBO EMBLEMS
VALVE CVR H.D. BRACKETS
VISORS,,,S1/2???
WHEEL COVERS- SERIES 1
WHEEL COVERS - SERIE 2
W.S. WSHR PARTS
WINDOW HNDLS, INTERIOR
WIPER ARMS, S1&2??

ACORN CLUB TOOL CRIB

All tools are currently available at Mark Webster's Shop, Contact Dave Ellis to coordinate.

Tools are signed out when the leave, and are signed back in when they are returned. "If you break it, you replace it"
Below are the tools available in the CRIB, as of 11/1/2018

-(3 Available)- Hot "Valve Lash Adjustment Valve Covers", have 6 holes in the appropriate places for socket access

-Coil Spring Compressors (pair)

-UNISYNC- Carb Balancing Tool

-(3 Available)- Series 1, AXLE York Removal Tools, you will need a MAPP gas torch,,,and a big hammer too,....

-Oil Pressure Tester, Oil Filter Bolt fitted with flexible tubing to an Oil Pressure Gage...great to check/assure oil pressure when first firing up a brand newly rebuilt motor.....

-Grease Gun Adapter- for greasing HD Universal Joints that have grease fittings in place...

-(2 Available)- Steering Wheel Pullers

-Harmonic Balancer Pulley Removal Tool...works with the engine in normal position,,,just remove the Oil Filter...

-Valve Guide Removal Punch

-Wire Brush Reamer - to clean out cross-drilled holes in Crankshaft during a rebuild -Differential Side Gear Adjuster tool

-Piston Ring(s) Compressor, used when installing a Piston/Con Rod Assy into Jug, then attaching con rod to crankshaft

-Fan Bearing Greasing Tool

-(2 Sets Avail.)-12 tubes-(Enough for one side of the Motor)- to hold JUGS in place whilst installing Piston/Com Rod Assys into the jugs, and bolting up the connecting rod cap around the appropriate Crankshaft Journal...VERY helpful!!!



Membership Application

Corvaire Society of America

Founded in 1969 by and for those who appreciate the Corvaire automobile

P.O. Box 68, Long Lake, Minnesota 55356 USA (603) 403-5010

Web site: www.corvaire.org Email: corvairecluboffice@gmail.com

☐ New Member ☐ Renewal

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Street Address or Post Office Box _____

City (Primary) _____ State or Province _____

Country _____ Postal Code _____

Telephone Number _____ Email Address _____

Please select your membership option by checking the appropriate box. For donations, specify the \$ amount.

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ 12-Month Paper Option USA \$45 | ☐ 12-Month eMember Option \$37 |
| ☐ 26-Month Paper Option USA \$90 | ☐ 26-Month eMember Option \$74 |
| ☐ 12-Month Paper Option Canada \$49 | ☐ CORSA Donation \$_____ |
| ☐ 26-Month Paper Option Canada \$98 | ☐ Corvaire Preservation Fund Donation. \$_____ |
| ☐ 12-Month Paper Outside US & Canada \$59 | ☐ Corvaire Racing Fund Donation \$_____ |
| ☐ 26-Month Paper Outside US & Canada \$118 | ☐ National Corvaire Museum Donation \$_____ |

Paper Option gives you online and mailed versions of our magazine, (the CORSA Communique), access to the members-only area of our website, and the right to attend our Annual International Convention. There may be a four-to-six-week delay before you receive your first magazine by mail. The eMember Option provides all the benefits of the Paper option except the CORSA Communique is available only online.

Chapters. CORSA has over 100 chapters throughout the world. We encourage CORSA members to join a local chapter. Check this box if you want us to provide contact information for chapters in your area: ☐

Roster. CORSA publishes a member roster with contact information so that members can reach out to each other. However, we respect your privacy. Check this box if you want to be EXCLUDED from the roster: ☐

Website Access: If you do NOT already have a username and password for our website, please specify them.

Username (requested) _____ Password (requested) _____

If paying by credit card: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Amex ☐ Discover (fill-in account # below)

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Exp. Date (mm yy)

Security Code

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Amex – 4-digit. All others – 3 digit

Total Payment Amount: \$ _____ Signature _____



Association of Corvair Nuts
APPLICATION for MEMBERSHIP to JOIN ACORN
"A C O R N" is CHAPTER #148 of the
CORVAIR SOCIETY OF AMERICA" (CORSa)



DATE: _____

NAME: _____ (MEMBER)

NAME: _____ (SPOUSE/SIGNIFICANT OTHER, CHILDREN, etc.)

ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS(ES): _____

(ACORNews, the club's monthly newsletter will be sent via email unless requested otherwise.)

PHONE #s: HOME _____ WORK _____
[optional] _____ CELL _____

ANNUAL DUES FOR ACORN MEMBERSHIP IS \$12, DUE IN JANUARY.
AFTER JANUARY, DUES ARE REDUCED BY \$1 A MONTH
FIRST TIME MEMBERS/FAMILIES ARE FREE FOR THE FIRST YEAR!

Please make checks or money orders payable to:

**Mark Webster
607 Winona Blvd
Rochester, NY 14617**

IT IS NOT A REQUIREMENT TO BE A MEMBER OF CORSa TO BE A MEMBER OF THE ACORNS.
HOWEVER, IF YOU ARE A MEMBER OF CORSa, PLEASE CHECK HERE: _____ IF NOT, WE CAN
PROVIDE AN APPLICATION FOR CORSa.

PLEASE, TELL US ABOUT YOUR CORVAIR(S)

YEAR HP	MODEL TRANSMISSION	BODY STYLE	ENGINE
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

ANY OTHER HOBBIES OR INTERESTS YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE?



Long Island Corvair Association

24 Maple Road, Wading River, N.Y. 11792

Website: www.corvair.org/chapters/longisland

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/LongislandCorvair>

Email: longislandcorvair@gmail.com

Phone: 631-375-6520



YOU
CAN'T IMAGINE
HOW JOYOUS A
COMPACT CAR
CAN BE ★ until
you've driven the
REAR-ENGINE
Corvair
by Chevrolet

Annual Car Show

Sunday September 21, 2025

9:00 AM - 3:00PM

Heckscher Town Park - Ball Field

NY-25A & Prime Ave, Huntington, NY 11743

FREE BREAKFAST AND LUNCH SERVED

\$25.00 Pre-registration \$30.00 Day of Show

We are all fortunate to own one of the most interesting and innovative cars ever made in America. No matter what condition it's in, if it's drivable your Corvair is unique and should be at the show! Show your pride and share your story with spectators and keep the Corvair legacy

There'll be fun and Corvair camaraderie. Seeing our cars out in full force and hearing our stories could inspire someone there to buy a Corvair. It's how we keep breathing new life into this passion we all share.

Do your part...bring your car and have a great time!

Owners Name: _____ Email: _____

Car Year _____ Corvair Model _____

Body Style (Check One) ☐ FC / Station Wagon ☐ Convertible ☐ 2 Door ☐ 4 Door

Please make checks out to Long Island Corvair Association and mail to above address.