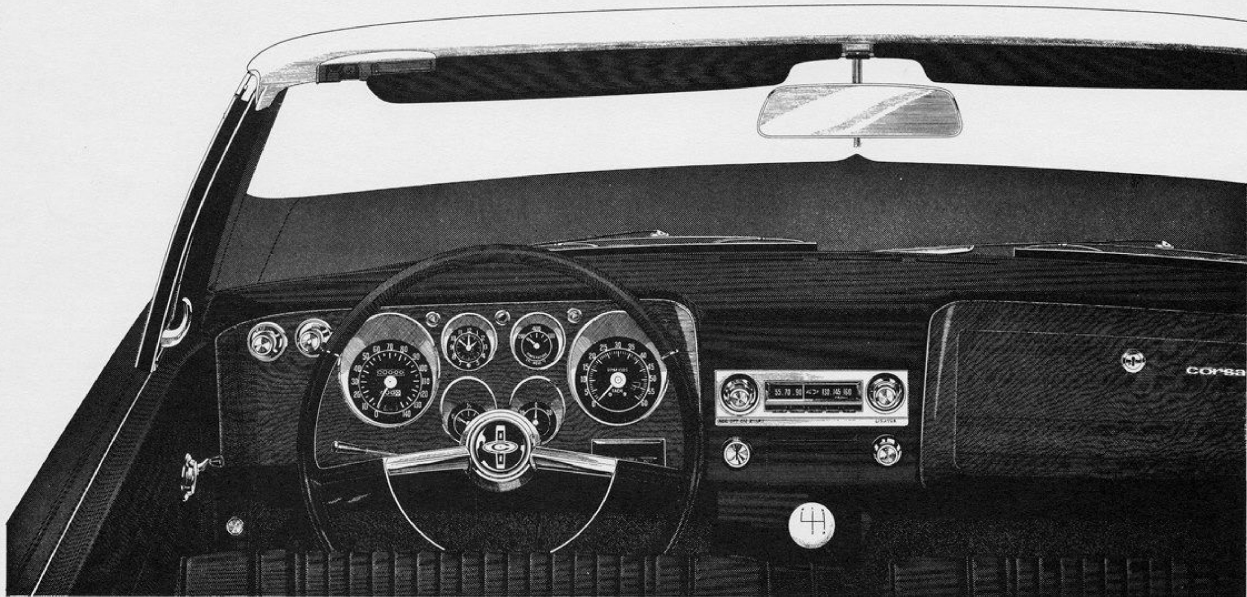


April 2021

the **Fanbelt** 
new jersey association of CORVAIR enthusiasts

**Zing into spring!
Corvair
by Chevrolet**



The steering's crisper, the ride's flatter, the style's racier – even the grass looks a shade greener from behind the wheel of this new Corvair



**HIGH TIME TO TRADE
AT YOUR CHEVROLET DEALERS**

Zing into spring in a new Chevrolet, Chevelle, Corvair, Chevy II or Corvette

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 68, Long Lake, MN 55356. Meetings of NJACE are held periodically at locations and times as announced in this newsletter and on our website. 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.

Zing into Spring was a Chevrolet newspaper ad campaign from early 1965, that's why our cover image this month is in black & white despite Springtime being the start of color returning to the trees, our gardens, and our lawns.

Is your Corvair ready for Spring? If you need any parts, make sure that you attend our Spring Swap Meet on May 1st. If you have any excess parts, bring them to our Spring Swap Meet on May 1st!

How I Got Started

Editor's Note: Club secretary David Malcolm has been asking members to submit stories of how they got started in Corvairs. Here's the next installment:

by Frank Hunter

It seems Corvairs have been part of my family forever. I have three older sisters, who each owned a Corvair. Janice had a '65 green four-door. Linda had a new '68 red two-door, with a smog control unit.



Both of these Corvairs were purchased from Don Kickert Chevrolet in Franklin, NJ. My Aunt Marge had a '65 white two-door which she gave to my sister Fran in 1971. The car was never garaged and Fran had to wear boots when driving the Corvair in the rain.

I have fond memories of flames coming out of the exhaust pipes at night driving with Linda in that brand new '68!



Janice's 1965 four-door. The car appears to have an aftermarket parking brake.



Aunt Marge's 1965 Monza. Not shown is the optional rainwear.



Linda's 1968 Monza, apparently in the witness protection program. The dented door was a later option.

My father also had his share of Corvairs. A brown '66 convertible, a blue '66 Corsa, followed by a green Corsa. Both Corsas were modified by John Fitch. I vaguely remember this little town in Connecticut with a two bay garage. We once test drove a car Fitch had for sale that had a "fastback 904 Ventop." It was a sweet running car, but at one time must have had hay in it. My mother kept sneezing during the test drive so my father passed on that car!

My father also ordered a new '68 Monza with a 140 and 4 speed but then had to cancel the order for health reasons. However, shortly afterwards he purchased a yellow '68 Pontiac Catalina.

continued

How Frank Got Started, continued

Even before my first Corvair purchase, I remember in the early '70s visiting a Chevy dealership in Newton, NJ that still had a new green 500 3-speed on the lot.

We all know about the gas crisis of 1971. One of the Corsas got traded for \$300 on a 1971 Vega that had the engine that would later burn up. The other Corsa met the same fate for a mid 70's Chevette that had the most uncomfortable seating complementing the cheap plastic trim!

I purchased my first Corvair in 1979, a 1965 Monza with a 140 four-speed for \$1,200 from a Mr. Boos in Madison, NJ. I started fixing it up the next year after saving \$500 as a janitor at the Franklin Burger King while attending the County College of Morris. Of course, I spent all the money on parts from Clark's. My Clark's order arrived that winter (1980). The order was packed in at least a dozen boxes, totally confusing my mother when the boxes arrived in one delivery!

The '65 Monza almost got me through college when a dropped valve seat sidelined the car. It



Frank's first Corvair, 1979.

spent the next several years in the backyard of Aunt Marge's house in Belleville. Finally, at the town's request, the car had to go. As I could not find another place for the car, it went to the junkyard. The engine and other parts stayed in my aunt's basement until they were moved into an apartment and then to Ramsey.

I purchased my current rust red Monza in 1986. After years in storage, Steve Calandra helped me get it started in 2016. The blue four-door was purchased in 2007. However, that's a separate article.

Send us your "How I Got Started" story!

***A Game for our Zoom Meeting***

Due to unexpected circumstances we had to postpone our "Corvair Jeopardy" game from last month's Zoom meeting. Even Katie Couric was disappointed!

But get ready: During this month's Zoom meeting, to take place on Saturday, April 3, we're planning to have the "Corvair Jeopardy" game.

Of course you know how "Jeopardy" works. Each member will, in turn, be given a Corvair-related "answer" and must provide the correct "question." For example, for the answer "5½ by 13" the question would be "What size were the wheels on Corvair cars?"

Just like last month you'll get a point for each correct "question" and nothing for each wrong one but it will all be for fun because no one will be keeping score and there are no prizes or penalties.

So join us online via Zoom at 9:00 AM on Saturday, April 3. We'll send out the meeting link via email a few days beforehand.

Summer Road Trip: A Distinctive Car Show

by Terry Stafford

The Northeast
Corvair
Council
(NECC) has

something this summer for all the people who have waited quite a while to get out and exercise their Corvairs, or at least take a 'road trip' to meet up with other car people.



Saturday, July 31, is the date for the NECC track day and time trials at Pocono Raceway this summer. This year's event is dedicated to the memory Warren LeVeque who passed away in 2020. He was one of the best known and beloved Corvair Racers from the '60s right on through the 2000s and he participated with the NECC several times. Many of us grew up in the hobby reading his monthly CORSA Communiqué articles during his 20-year tenure as CORSA Competition Chairman.

So, as part of the celebration we're going to have a Corvair Car Show in the Pocono Raceway paddock right in front of the garages during this year's event. We are expecting to draw cars from



Warren LeVeque

throughout the region, and you're likely to see some high-performance Corvairs from around the East, coming to pay tribute to Warren on the track.

Think of it as a "Car Show with Benefits." It's a non-judged "People's Choice" show, and there will be

- NO ENTRY FEE to the racetrack
- NO ENTRY FEE to the car show
- NO ENTRY FEE for spectators

In addition, there is no entry fee for Parade Laps around the 1.5-mile North Road Course during the midday lunch break, a course that includes the six-degree banked superspeedway turn three. Take passengers, too!

And there's more! During that same lunch break you will have a front row seat for a very unique parade of upwards of 300 Harley Davidson motorcycles rolling into the track facility at 12 Noon. They will take three parade laps on the 2.5-mile superspeedway tri-oval and back out again. Keep your camera ready for this!

While you're there you will be welcome to go thru the paddock garages to talk to the drivers, and take a look up close at the Corvairs and other cars that will be participating on the track. You can go out near trackside to watch some live action, and you can ask to be one of the volunteers who will be assigned trackside flagging responsibilities for an hour or two during the action.

This might even be the year that you sign up as a driver on the track, have the thrill of a lifetime, and still get all the other perks. While there are safety requirements and an entry fee for those competing on the track, everything else listed above is FREE! We do ask that you sign up in advance, so go to neccmotorsports.com or call:

Bill Tynan, (516) 643-2820

Terry Stafford, (631) 682-0832

The Pocono Raceway gate will open at 7:00 AM on July 31, with cars on the track 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM (with that one hour lunch break at Noon). Show parking starts at 7:00 AM, the show itself is 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM (with an awards presentation at 3). You are of course welcome to stay through the end of the track day.

Pocono Raceway is an hour and a half drive from Parsippany and just a short distance off Route 80, an easy ride from New Jersey. Put this one on your calendar!





Our swap meet on May 1st can't succeed without **your** help. We need volunteers for a number of tasks, ranging from directing parking in the morning to helping clean up in the afternoon. Even if you can spare only an hour or so, we appreciate your help.

Please volunteer! (It's better than getting conscripted.) Please contact Brian O'Neill by voice or text at 973-729-5586 or by email at bmoneill@juno.com. Thank you for helping!

Make Plans for the Swap Meet!

What: NJACE All-Corvaair Spring Swap Meet

When: Saturday, May 1, 2021, 9 AM - 3 PM,
rain or shine!

Where: Outdoors at the New Beginnings Bible Church, 104 Bartley Flanders Rd, Flanders, NJ 07836

No vendor fee! No admission charge! (Donations will be accepted for the benefit of the church.)

Sellers, reserve your space (it's free!) by sending your name, phone number, and email address to club Secretary David Malcolm at david.s.malcolm@verizon.net.

Extra Attractions: Music – Door prizes – 50-50 raffle. Enter the best/funniest/ugliest mask contest!

All applicable COVID protocols will be enforced. Wear a mask and practice social distancing. Persons not complying will be asked to leave.

To download the swap meet flyer, visit <http://www.corvaair.org/chapters/njace>

ZOOM with us



Our April Zoom breakfast will take place on **Saturday, April 3, at 9:00 AM**. You can join on your computer, tablet, or smartphone.

This month's meeting will include informal conversation and a "Corvaair Jeopardy" game as explained on Page 3.

As before, in advance of the meeting we will send a link via email. Just click on the link, or copy-and-paste it, to join the meeting at 9:00 AM that Saturday.

Join us! Saturday, April 3, 9:00 AM.

How to Crash a Car That Doesn't Run

by Nick Ford

How, you may ask, did club member Rich Loungo crash a 1964 Spyder with a seized engine? Well, I'll tell you.



It was a long time ago, 1984 to be exact. Rich called me up and said "Hey Nick, I found a '64 Spyder for sale with a non-running engine in Parsippany." I said let's go look at it. We got in my father's tow truck and headed off to Winding Way in Parsippany.

We sized up the car. The body was very solid, no rust. Interior was in decent shape, and the exterior could use a paint job. We then looked in the engine compartment. The owner said that the engine stopped running and would not turn over. That was ok by me since I had an auto repair shop to bring the car and rebuild the engine. What was important to me was that the engine and engine compartment was all in original un-molested condition. Very nice.

We paid the owner, hooked it up to the tow truck, and brought it back to the repair shop.

When we got to the shop, we had to bring the car around back and find a spot to drop it off out of the way. I had to jockey some cars around to make a space, so I had to disconnect the wrecker to get it out of the way, move the cars, and roll the Spyder into the spot.

So I told Rich to get in the Spyder and keep it from rolling once I disconnected the tow truck, since the lot behind the shop was kind of steep. I proceeded to let the car down, disconnect the straps, and pulled forward about 15 feet. As I was getting out of the tow truck, I felt a big crash at the rear. I looked back and saw the Spyder riding up on the straps of the tow truck.

I got out, walked back to the car, and said to Rich, "Were you listening to me?" I figured he was goofing around inside the car and not paying attention. He said he stepped on the brake and it went right to the floor.

[Editor's Note: This could be the first of a new series: Stupid Corvair Tricks. Are you willing to confess to dumb moves made years ago?]

New This Month

This month we have several new additions to our "classified ads" web site, <http://garagekey.blogspot.com/>. These include two Corvair convertibles being offered by long-time club member Dave Cavagnaro, and a '65 Monza coupe with factory air being offered by a member of the neighboring Bayshore Corvair Association.

At the same time, we have marked a few of the items under the "parts" tabs as SOLD. The site is now averaging more than 50 individual visitors *per day*. That's chicken feed in internet terms but great for a local marque club's ad site.

Have a Corvair or something Corvair-related to sell? Seeking something? Placing an ad on the site is FREE. Just send good photos and complete description to us at vairtec@optimum.net.

NJACE Officers for 2021

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Treasurer, Tim Schwartz
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Publicity VP, Bob Marlow
Phone 201-444-1859
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Minutes

of the
General Membership Meeting
Saturday, March 5, 2021
Conducted via Zoom

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by President Brian O'Neill.

Upon motion duly made and seconded the Minutes of the December 5, 2020, meeting as printed in the January Fanbelt were approved.

Upon motion duly made and seconded the Treasurer's Report as emailed to the membership prior to the meeting was approved.

Activities Report:

The May 1 Swap Meet.

Brian talked about the plans for food at the Meet. Because of health department regulations the plan for us to provide refreshments at the Church was not viable. Larry Ashley is going to see if any of the local fraternal/service organizations might be able to handle the food. If not then we could possibly have a food truck. The issue with a food truck is the requirement of a guaranteed minimum dollar amount of sales.

We also need several members to provide "traffic control" at the church because of a combination of limited access to the parking lot and the speed and volume of traffic on the road.

NECC at Pocono Raceway.

The July 31 NECC event will be dedicated to the memory of Warren LaVeque, the well-known Corvair racer who passed away on Nov 29, 2020. The NECC wants to have as many Corvairs as possible turn out for this event. There is no charge for attending this event. You must sign the insurance waiver at the gate and also sign in with NJACE so you will have coverage through CORSA. During the lunch break there will be the opportunity for participating in parade laps on the track. Also there will be a People's Choice car show held.

Publicity Report:

None was offered due to the absence of Publicity VP Bob Marlow.

Old Business:

None was brought forth.

New Business:

None was brought forth.

Upon motion duly made and seconded the meeting was adjourned at 9:17 AM.

*Respectfully submitted,
David Malcolm, Secretary*

NJACE Calendar of Events

Saturday, April 3: Our monthly Zoom online breakfast meeting, 9:00 AM. This month's Zoom session will include our "Corvair Jeopardy" game postponed from last month.

Saturday, May 1: Our first in-person event of 2021, the Spring Swap Meet in Flanders as detailed in this issue and on our club web site, <http://www.corvair.org/chapters/njace>.

May 18-22: Corvair Preservation Foundation mini-convention in Springfield, IL. Details at <http://www.corvair.org/chapters/chapter627/mini2021.htm>

Saturday, July 31: Car show at Pocono Raceway in conjunction with the NECC's track day. See the details in this issue.

As always, watch our Facebook page, our email messages, and this monthly newsletter for updates.

Dues and Don't!

NJACE memberships runs from April 1 through the following March 31, so typically we would be collecting renewals right now.

But all members are having their membership extended by a year for free! So don't renew! No renewals are due at this time.

This, of course, is on account of to the pandemic that so seriously curtailed club activities over the past 12 months. Here's to better days ahead!

