

March 2022

the *Fanbelt* 
new jersey association of CORVAIR enthusiasts

Have We Got a March for You!

AUCTION



**Saturday,
March 5**

**Sunday,
March 13**

**ST. PATRICK'S
PARTY**

**See all the details
in this issue!**

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. Commercial advertising space is also accepted, please contact the editor for details. (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.

President's Message

by *Brian O'Neill*



In days gone by the only reason to look forward to the coming of the month of March was that maybe, just maybe, with a little bit of luck, you might see crocuses or daffodils start to poke up from the ground. In some ways March marks the end of winter (the vernal equinox falls on March 20 as the Sun crosses the celestial equator going north) but April snow is not unheard of.

NJACE has now changed all that. This year looking forward to the month of March is the thing to do. Why? Because we've got **two great events happening this month**.

The first event in March is the return of our legendary **Parts Auction**, on **Saturday, March 5**. This perennial favorite was placed on hold last year because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Very mindful of the health of our members and friends we put the auction on hold. This year with the decrease in infections and the ready availability of vaccines the NJACE officers felt confident that we could hold the auction.

To be sure that it is a safe event we have moved the location. Our long-term hosts, the Ashleys, have been extremely gracious over the years allowing us to use their shop for the auction. However, this year there was some concern that the Ashley's shop does not have enough space to effectively social distance. So we sought a new venue and found the Elks Lodge in Pompton Lakes.

This facility has a very large ballroom that will allow us to distance ourselves. It is a beautiful location. Carpeted floors, a center wooden dance floor (which, by the way, we will not be using for dancing) and all-around great facilities.

The Elks club also offers a couple of advantages for all members. The lodge has a full kitchen and the Elks will be selling breakfast items in the morning and lunch mid-day. The menus appear in this issue of *THE FANBELT*. Please take advantage of this because the profits

they make go to support very worthwhile charities.

Please help us maintain our reputation as very good guests. Please don't bring any really greasy old car parts as my wife calls them. And please, please don't leave any items when the event is over. Every year there are items left at Ashley's which we have to dispose of.

Please note that we will not be having a breakfast at the Empire Diner this month, since the auction is taking place on what would otherwise be our breakfast date. Complete auction details appear in this issue.

Now the other great event in March is our delayed **Holiday Party**. Originally scheduled for early January of this year, Picatinny Arsenal, in response to the surge in Omicron infections canceled all their events at the Conference Center. But just as with the Parts Auction, the situation has gotten much better. We are now scheduled there on **Sunday, March 13**. As is traditional the festivities start at 1 PM.

With a name like Brian Michael Kevin O'Neill I just could not resist the temptation to use my vast executive power to rename this year's Holiday Party as the **St. Patrick's Day Party**. So dust off all your green attire. There might even be some prizes for the best or most unique green things. There will be the great food we've come to appreciate at the Conference Center and we will be conducting the ever-popular Gift Game.

Check out the complete party details in this issue. Remember, on St. Patrick's Day (which we have now moved by four days), everyone is Irish.



The Parts Auction

Where:

Elks Lodge #1895
15 Perrin Avenue
Pompton Lakes NJ 07442

When:

Saturday, March 5
Doors open 8:30 AM for setup,
bidding begins at 10:30 AM

After a hiatus due to COVID our wintertime Corvair Parts Auction returns on **Saturday, March 5th**, at a new venue, the **Pompton Lakes Elks Lodge** at 15 Perrin Ave., Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442.

The Elks Lodge has easy access from major highways for an easy drive and has a large parking lot. It will provide us with a much larger indoor space to hold the auction, an important factor in these times. There will be a large number of tables to display your "for sale" items and there is comfortable seating. No need to bring a chair!

The Elks will have **breakfast and lunch** items for sale which will benefit the charities they support including Veterans, Youth, and Community Programs. Come hungry!

We will of course have our usual entertaining auctioneers for your enjoyment. Get all those parts and cash ready and be sure to join us for a great time.

As in the past, at the auction our shameless auctioneers will offer Corvair parts and Corvair-related items to the highest bidder, with a 10% commission of the sale price going to the club treasury. You may bring parts to sell, you may buy, or you may do both, or you may just come to enjoy the fun.

Plan on making a day of it. Due to the nature of how the auction operates, it is not possible to process any buyers or sellers until the auction is completed. Only when all lots have been offered and the bidding is complete, typically around 2:30 PM, can we tally the sales, collect from the buyers, and pay the sellers.

Plan on getting there early. As we said we'll

open the doors at 8:30 AM, to allow time to tag and display any parts you are selling, have some breakfast, and to peruse the parts being offered.

If you're selling, you will need to fill out an Auction Lot Card for each part or group of parts being sold as one, so please allow sufficient time to do this before the start of bidding.

The Auction Lot Card form is available on the NJACE website so you can print what you need and fill them out in advance. Just use this link:

http://www.corvair.org/chapters/njace/Auction_Lot_Cards.pdf

But you can also get blank lot cards on the day of the auction.

Each attendee will be issued a Bidder Number by which the auction desk will track all purchases.

We ask that items being offered be limited to Corvair parts or Corvair-related items, only. Also, we ask that you not bring more than one of the same item to sell. You can, however, sell multiple items in a "lot." You could offer, say, one lot of six oil filters, instead of individual oil filters. (Bulk lots often sell very well!)

Remember that only quality items sell easily. Greasy, rusty, bent and broken pieces have limited appeal, and we don't want to bring them into the Elks Lodge, anyway.

The club will deduct a 10% commission on all sales. You may also donate items for the full benefit of the club. We ask everyone to consider donating some items, to help defray the costs of the rental of the facility.

What if the weather is bad? Because this is an indoor event, it will take place regardless of the weather. Only an out-and-out blizzard, or similar curveball thrown by Mother Nature, will cause us to cancel. Generally speaking, you can assume that the event is "on," but if it is necessary to cancel we will get the word out via email and Facebook and the Corvair Center Forum.

Historically, the auction is our most popular event of the year and draw participants from far and wide. Don't miss it!



The St. Patrick's Party

Where:

Cannon Gate Conference Center
Picatinny Arsenal NJ 07801

When:

Sunday, March 13
1:00 PM

Due to circumstances beyond our control, our annual Holiday Party, scheduled originally for January 23rd, had to be postponed.

But when the alternative date of **Sunday, March 13th**, was offered, we grabbed it and we re-named our Holiday Party the **St. Patrick's Party!**

What does this mean? It means that we will still enjoy the same party with great food, good friends, music by Stevie, and we will continue with the gift exchange. Check your wardrobe for green, and check out all the party details:

The menu is planned to include

- ☛ Marinated Mushroom Salad
- ☛ Caesar Salad
- ☛ Tri-Color Tortellini Salad

- ☛ Chicken Parmigiana
- ☛ Carved Roast Beef
- ☛ Grilled Salmon
with Sundried Tomato Cream Sauce

- ☛ Chef's Choice of Potato
- ☛ Seasonal Vegetables

- ☛ Coffee, Tea and Soft drinks

Your cost for the party is just \$35 per person. You can sign up at the Parts Auction on March 5th or by contacting Brian O'Neill by e-mail (bmoneill@juno.com) or telephone (973-729-5586) no later than Tuesday, March 8th. Time is short! RSVP now!

But even with a reservation, you can't just drive in to the Picatinny Arsenal. It is absolutely necessary that you provide Brian with your name

and the name of anyone coming with you. You need to make sure each person has good photo identification with them. You also must have a valid registration and insurance card for your vehicle and you have to know that you are going to the Conference Center.

The security people at the front gate will have a list of everyone who is authorized entry for the party. That's why it's absolutely necessary that Brian has your information no later than Tuesday, March 8th. If you just show up at the front gate without prior arrangements things will be very difficult and entry cannot be guaranteed.

Okay, but how do you find Picatinny Arsenal and the correct entry gate? That's easy, just follow Interstate 80 westbound to Exit 34B for New Jersey Route 15 North towards Jefferson/Sparta. If you're coming eastbound use exit 34 and follow the signs for Route 15 North. The Picatinny main gate will be on your right, just a short distance north on Route 15.

Once you are at the gate, your destination is the Cannon Gate Conference Center, locally known as the club. After you have gone through the gate, continue straight on the main road, and as you come up to a blinking yellow traffic light bear to the right. Go on that road for only a short distance and then bear left. The Conference Center will be a short distance on your left.

Please do not wander around on the Arsenal. You'll attract unwanted attention.

Now call or e-mail Brian no later than March 8th to make your reservations.

Please note, if you RSVP that you are coming, NJACE is on the hook for your dinner. If for some reason you have to cancel you are still responsible for the cost. We know unexpected things happen but please be considerate of your fellow club members and don't burden them with the cost of your meal.

Once more, Brian's phone number is 973-729-5586 and his email is bmoneill@juno.com. As Brian has said, everyone is Irish on St. Patrick's Day! It's going to be a magical!

The Gift Game

The ever-popular “Gift Game” is on tap for our party on March 13. Not familiar with the game? Here’s how it works:

If you wish to participate in the Gift Game, please bring a wrapped gift valued at no more than \$15. Just remember the gifts you bring should be unisex. Be creative! Let's try not to be inundated with bottles of wine and other adult beverages. Creative thinking has in the past brought us such things as the “Who’s Your Santa?” shorts and the dollar bills in a toilet paper roll!

The gifts are placed on a central table, and numbers are drawn to determine the order in which participants will take turns selecting a gift. The first person opens a wrapped gift, and each subsequent participant can choose a new gift to open or can “steal” another person's gift. When a person's gift is stolen, that person can either choose another wrapped gift to open or steal from another player.

It has proven to be a great deal of fun which is why we have been doing it for years now. Participation is optional, but join in!



It’s that time of year, NJACE membership renewal time.

All NJACE memberships run from April 1 through March 31, for either one year or two years. But for 2021, we suspended dues because of the pandemic’s limiting effect on club activities.

The pandemic is not gone but it is in retreat, and our calendar is beginning to look more “normal,” so dues collection is returning.

More than 40 members have already renewed. Don’t miss out! Below is a list of those members who are due to renew, as of February 20. If your name is on the list, please use the membership form that is on the last page of this newsletter to renew. Print it out, fill it in, and send it in with your dues payment for one or two years. (Yes, we need the paper form, because addresses and phone numbers and email addresses do change!) Thank you!

Aguda, Chris
 Asheuer, Larry
 Benvenuto, Corinne
 Bermudez, Aramis & Rita
 Betzalel, Ronen
 Brady, Charles & Lynda
 Breines, Steven
 Caravaglia, Sean & Sian
 Cohen, Gary
 Coker, Ray & Kathy
 Davidson, James
 Dittrich, William
 Frey, Larry & Connie
 Gervasio, Tony & Helen
 Gonzalez, Guy & Salome
 Gorostiza, Felipe
 Gorski, Gregory
 Johnson, Frank & Chris
 Kananah, Fahad

Kuhles, Jr., David
 Levy, Craig & Stacy
 Librizzi, Joseph & Annette
 Lohf, Robert & Joana
 Lorenz, Fred & Mark
 Louglas, Peter & Lillian
 Main, David & Susanne
 Malcolm, Elizabeth & David
 McKimens, Taylor
 Mirabella, Nick
 Rodriguez, Missy
 Rueda, Miguel
 Schiffner, Ken
 Shaver, Russ & Linnea
 Speronza, Dominick & Susan
 Stone, Curt & Pat
 Stone, Michael
 Vanderpoel, Jim & Joann
 Vogel, Kevin
 Westfield, Francis

A Phone Call, a Car Part and Years Later...

by Ray Coker



I've read several articles in this newsletter recently that were written by fellow club members about the first Corvair they owned. I cannot specifically recall the first Corvair I owned, but it was 48 or 49 years ago so I get a pass on that.

I do recall once purchasing a wrecked one for \$25 because it had a good running engine that I needed. We towed it home from St Petersburg to Tampa with a chain first on an interstate then on 4-lane and 2-lane roads. Try that today and you'll be arrested.

I also recall a conversation a little over 20 years ago that resulted in me joining NJACE and afterwards enjoying many years of friendship and encouragement and assistance while working on my Corvairs.

Twenty-one years ago, my wife, without my knowledge purchased a Rampside for me. She bought it, she had it secretly moved to another location and shortly after that she gave it to me as a birthday present.

It ran well but it had a clutch that chattered... no it didn't talk to me but it chattered when I was releasing it to drive down the road. I knew it needed a new clutch assembly and me being a gear-head at heart I removed the engine to install the new clutch components. What I didn't think about purchasing until it was too late was the clutch pilot shaft bushing.

It's was Saturday, the local auto part stores didn't have what I needed in stock and ordering one meant waiting days for the delivery... what's a fella to do? I did some research on NJ Corvair clubs and discovered NJACE. Not knowing anyone in the club I decided to go to the top and phone the "president" of the club and ask him where I might find the part I needed. His response was "come to my house and I'll give you one."

What? This guy doesn't know me yet he is

inviting me to his house to get a part I desperately needed. I followed the directions he gave me and within an hour I was at Brian O'Neill's house.

Not only did he place the part I needed in my hand he invited me upstairs to meet his wife, Roberta. I sat at a table in their dining room where we shared some Corvair stories along with a little about our backgrounds. I recall Roberta was cooking scallops and they both asked me to stay and join them for dinner which I declined. As gracious as the offer was, I really wanted to go home and continue working on my truck.

That proves Corvair owners are wacky, I turned down a nice dinner to go home and get my hands greasy working on a clutch assembly! I've since learned we're not wacky... we're Chuckleheads.

That meeting with the O'Neill's and joining NJACE has provided many fond memories for myself and my wife Kathy. Along with various club members who we now consider close friends we have been in Washington State, Kentucky, Arizona & Florida for CORSA Conventions plus numerous Parts Auctions, Tech Sessions, a Swap Meet, Race Tracks, Holiday Parties, club members homes, The Corvair Ranch, the Detroit Homecoming, various business tours, museums and lots more.

The people we have met are not only car owners they are truly caring individuals who are always willing to jump in and help fellow Corvair owners out of a jam. Have there been questionable times? Yes, can you imagine a tour bus leaving the Grand Canyon without doing a passenger head count and stranding a handful of NJACE members behind? That still brings a smile to my face when I think about it.

Life is fun and we feel young so we'll continue driving our Corvairs, attending club events and hoping any new NJACE club members will experience the happiness we have.



A Word from the Activities VP

by *Steve Calandra*

As we continue to fill out our 2022 calendar, we have added a trip to the Sterling Hill Mining Museum in Ogdensburg, NJ. Keep Saturday, May 28, open.



As a club we were there about 20 years ago or so, and the museum is well worth a return. Bill, the museum manager, is very glad to have us, and is an old car enthusiast himself.

There is a big lot for us to park our cars, and a large glass enclosed pavilion where we could have lunch and refreshments. The food is in the works right now. I'm also working on getting the other car clubs to which I belong to join us.

Details to follow in next month's *FANBELT*. Visit their website at

<https://www.sterlinghillminingmuseum.org/>

A Distinctive View on Handling

by *Bob Marlow*

In mid-February, the news hit that writer / humorist / satirist / pundit P.J. O'Rourke had died. As a fan of his writing I was saddened by this news, but, knowing that O'Rourke was a smoker and that he died as a result of lung cancer, I was also annoyed. I wanted to give him a dope slap.



Over the course of his career O'Rourke evolved from radical left-wing irreverent hippie writing for the *National Lampoon* to radical right-wing irreverent libertarian writing for *The Atlantic*. Along the way he wrote for countless publications

of all stripes, including *Car & Driver* and *Automobile*. Among his auto-related works years ago O'Rourke put his personal spin on vehicle handling:

"There's a lot of debate on this subject – about what kind of car handles best. Some say a front-engined car; some say a rear-engined car. I say a rented car. Nothing handles better than a rented car. You can go faster, turn corners sharper, and put the transmission into reverse while going forward at a higher rate of speed in a rented car than in any other kind. You can also park without looking, and can use the trunk as an ice chest. Another thing about a rented car is that it's an all-terrain vehicle. Mud, snow, water, woods – you can take a rented car anywhere. True, you can't always get it back – but that's not your problem, is it?"





As noted in our information about the Parts Auction on March 5th, the members of the Pompton lakes Elks Lodge will be serving both breakfast in the morning and lunch midday. Here's the expected menu:

Breakfast:

Buttered Roll
 Fried Egg Sandwich
 Egg & Cheese Sandwich
 Bacon or Sausage or Taylor Ham
 & Cheese Sandwich
 Cookies & Brownies
 Coffee & Tea
 Bottled Water
 Soft Drinks

Lunch:

Hamburger
 Cheeseburger
 Hot Dog
 Grilled Cheese on White or Rye
 Chicken Tenders
 Seasoned Fries
 Mozzarella Sticks
 Coffee & Tea
 Bottled Water
 Soft Drinks

NJACE Calendar of Events

- * **Saturday, March 5:** NJACE Corvair Parts Auction, indoors at the Pompton Lakes Elks Lodge. See the details in this newsletter.
- * **Sunday, March 13:** Annual Holiday Party, now a St. Patrick's party, at the Cannon Gate Conference Center on Picatinny Arsenal. See the details, including the need to RSVP, in this newsletter.
- * **Saturday, April 2:** Monthly breakfast meeting at the Empire Diner on Route 46 eastbound in Parsippany, 9:00 AM.

*Items marked with * are official club events.*

NJACE Officers for 2022

President:

Brian O'Neill, phone 973-729-5586
 email bmoneill@juno.com

Vice-President:

Nick Ford, phone 201-572-5797
 email mb05203-64110@yahoo.com

Secretary:

David Malcolm, phone 201-635-9696
 email david.s.malcolm@verizon.net

Treasurer:

Tim Schwartz, phone 201-447-4299
 email tim@bristolnj.com

Activities VP:

Steve Calandra, phone 201-836-6621
 email stevenjchevair@gmail.com

Publicity VP:

Bob Marlow, phone 201-444-1859
 email rmarlow4040@gmail.com

On February 19, a delegation of NJACE members attended the memorial service for Ed Natale, a memorial service that reinforced what a great guy our club has lost.

Ed and his engaging personality were seen most often at our monthly breakfasts, frequently in the company of his wife, Lois. In addition to owning a 1963 Monza convertible, Ed owned more than half a dozen other collectible cars, ranging from a 1924 Buick to a 1939 Cadillac. Ed was involved in a wide array of car-centric activities, including the annual "Metro Petro" swap meet each Spring.



It was Ed who made it possible for us to secure the use of the Pompton Lakes Elks Lodge for our auction this month, something that he did just weeks before his passing. At the auction we will welcome members of Ed's family and we will be taking the time to remember Ed Natale.

☞ Check the list on page 5 to see whether it's time to renew your membership! ☞



New Jersey Association of Corvair Enthusiasts

P.O. Box 631
Ridgewood, NJ 07451

Membership Form

Date _____

[] New Membership or [] Renewal

[] Individual or [] Family*

*Family Membership includes two adults and all children under age 21 living at a single address.

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Name of 2nd Adult Family Member _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____

E-mail _____

Our monthly newsletter and other updates are delivered via e-mail.
Printed materials are mailed periodically, as needed.
We do not share our mailing lists with others.

NJACE dues are payable as follows:

[] One Year Membership, New or Renewal.....\$19.00

[] Two Year Membership, New or Renewal.....\$36.00

Membership expires on March 31st

Total Remitted: \$ _____

Please make your check or money order payable to NJACE, Inc.,
and mail this completed form and payment to the address above or deliver it to the Treasurer at any club event.
You should receive your first newsletter within four weeks of our receiving your application.

NJACE is a Chapter of CORSA, the Corvair Society of America.
CORSA membership information is available online at http://www.corvair.org/

Tell us about you and your Corvairs

Your Corvairs (year, model, color, equipment, condition etc) _____

Your other cars and trucks _____

Your other hobbies and interests _____

Your profession _____

Your birthday (and your age, if you wish) _____

Your anniversary (and year married, if you wish) _____

Your children/grandchildren or other family _____

Your pets _____

When and why did you first buy a Corvair? _____

Anything else you'd like to tell us _____