

October 2023

the *Fanbelt*

new jersey association of CORVAIR enthusiasts

Founded June 1970



**Yes, We DO Have
a New Breakfast Location!**
This and more starts on Page 2

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.

Join Us for Breakfast!



On Saturday, October 7, join us at Paul's Diner, located at 320 Route 46 East, Mountain Lakes, NJ 07046.

We can't yet know whether this will become the permanent home for our monthly breakfasts, but the folks at Paul's Diner (also known as Paul's Family Diner) are welcoming us this month so that both they and us can see how well it works out. Let's have a nice strong turnout for this first visit.

Paul's Diner is on the same eastbound side of Route 46 as the Empire Diner, our former home, but just four miles west.

NJACers On The Road

Fall Classic at Clark's

by Bob Marlow



It should be no surprise that the NJACE members who attended the "Fall Classic at Clark's" Corvair show on September 16 also enjoyed eating!

In this photo we see (left to right) Frank Hunter, Gary Bullman, Roberta O'Neill, Brian O'Neill, Michael Stone, Curt Stone, Ed Garfield, and Nick Ford.

Theses eight members (and three of their Corvairs) made the trip to Shelburne Falls.

CPCC Corvair Day

by Ray Coker



We are *sooo* lucky. When I say we are so lucky I am not talking about my wife and I but rather Corvair owners in general. The recent Central Pennsylvania Corvair Club's "Corvair Day" Car Show on September 16th at the Eastern Museum of Motor Racing in York Springs was yet another example of an opportunity to meet other like-minded old car nuts who love driving and showing off their Corvairs.

There were 35 Corvairs on display ranging from early models to late models to Greenbriers
continued

Corvair Day, continued

to Rampsides, a Lakewood and an Ultra Van which belonged to Jeff from the Corvair Ranch. All of these were proudly displayed with each owner willing to discuss their cars at length.

There were only three NJACE members in attendance, Bob Marlow, Al Lacki, and myself, but the three of us, as well as the representatives from other Corvair clubs knew there would have been more cars on display if not for both this event and the “Fall Classic at Clark’s” show happening on the same day. The Clark’s show is always a treat to attend if one can.

There were seven parts vendors on hand with each having new parts as well gently used parts for sale. With a little bargaining and some back and forth offers, several car owners became the new owner of some “parts of unspeakable value.”

I found a NOS FC gas tank strap, the one in my Rampside is in pretty good shape but for all I know it’s the original gas tank strap so having one on hand ready to support the weight of a full tank of gas if needed seemed like something that I should purchase. I also put in a bid on a NOS FC rear axle bearing but I was outbid on that item.

We all know events like this not only allow us to marvel at the attention and detail some owners have put into their Corvairs but it also gives you a chance to sit in the shade under one of many pop-up awnings and chat with people you have never met before. I was sitting in a lawn chair and talking with a person from Virginia who drove between four and five hours to attend this event. (He got the long-distance award.)

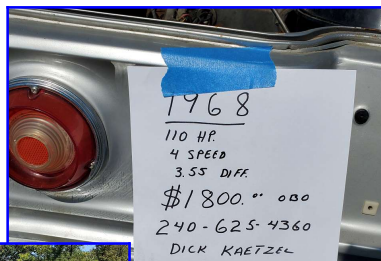
This was the 44th annual CPCC “Corvair Day” and he has attended all of them except one. Hearing that fact and then finding out he recently retired from the FBI made me hide my ankle bracelet. No... I do not have an ankle bracelet... I cut it off. Not really, honest!

Whoever planned this event well in advance must be “living a clean life” because you could not have asked for a better day. The sky was blue with nary a cloud and the temperature was suitable for short or long pants as well as short sleeve shirts or long sleeve shirts. It was beautiful!

I had a traveling companion who is a long time Corvair owner and lives about ten miles from my home. I met him at his house at 7:30am for the 90-minute drive to the museum. He admitted he is not a morning person but for a chance to see multiple Corvairs in one location and meet the steering wheel holders who drove those cars there he agreed to rise a little early and join me.

If you have any interest in race cars and the history behind them and you have not yet wandered through this expansive, priceless, collection of cars, and their drivers’ stories, plus the many walls of memorabilia you owe it to yourself to make the trek to the Eastern Museum of Motor Racing and treat you and your family to a great day. It’s FREE.

I am looking forward to 2024 when we can return to the museum and have a repeat of what we experienced this year, and hopefully with more Corvairs and the people who own them.



All “Corvair Day” photos by Ray Coker

Thinking Outside the (Newsletter) Box

by Bob Marlow

As announced in last month's issue, I am "retiring" from my position as NJACE Publicity VP and newsletter editor, effective at the end of this year.



As a result it is necessary for the club to find someone new to fill those roles, and the clock is ticking.

But what are those roles? Publicity VP, which is an elected position, is fairly straightforward. Here's how the club bylaws define it:

The Publicity VP "*shall maintain the official NJACE membership/subscriber roster, inform the membership of regular and special events and handle the mailing of all publicity material concerning NJACE activities, including the monthly newsletter.*"

The newsletter itself, however, is not defined in any way. So an editor/publisher has a lot of creative freedom as long as the needs of the membership are met.

And in this digital age, I have been pondering: Is the traditional newsletter as we know it still the best means of communication?

I have been using a word processor to produce the newsletter since the 1980s. And I am still using the same one, WordPerfect, all these years later. As the years went by and WordPerfect added features and I became more proficient in utilizing it, our newsletter added more graphics, photos, and color.

But the Antique Automobile Club of America (AACA), of which I am a member, distributes a monthly electronic newsletter via the Constant Contact email service. I do not know whether Constant Contact scales to the size of an organization as modest as NJACE, but the notion of a newsletter produced and distributed in that fashion intrigues me.

Still another club, smaller than both AACA and NJACE, no longer produces a traditional newsletter. It communicates with its membership entirely by email blasts and its Facebook page.

A change from a traditional newsletter may very well be worth our investigating at this time of transition from me to a new member volunteer (or multiple volunteers).

The newsletter has often been described as "the glue that holds the club together." While that statement is true, that glue is not so much "newsletter" as it is "communication."

As long as the club communicates regularly and clearly with its membership, the specific form of that communication may not matter.

So let's be thinking not only about "who" might take over, but also "how." What might be best for NJACE in the months and years to come?



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