



Our President and her support staff.

# ACORNNEWS

ASSOCIATION OF CORVAIR NUTS

Rochester, New York

CORSA Chapter 148



March 2011

## Prez Sez

March 2011

Hi ACORNS

Thanks to the planning by Betsy Fling, the club had a wonderful Valentines meeting at Keenan's Restaurant. In addition to the great meal all enjoyed, the calendar was updated with some new events and tech sessions added. You will find the details for those in the pages of this news letter.

I am very pleased to report that the scholarships for two students at the MCC School of Auto Maintenance have been distributed. Details to follow when Paul returns from his time in the sun and warmer weather; thanks Paul.

The "Crepe Experience" has been confirmed for April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Those who attend will have an opportunity for some hands on crepe making and then enjoy a scrumptious meal including dessert and non-alcoholic beverages. The cost is \$35 a person plus tax and tip so the club voted to cover the tax and tip. I have sent out an e-mail request that anyone that may be attending please get back to me with any food allergies or issues ASAP. There will definitely be a vegetarian alternative.

Gentleman, please get involved in the tech sessions. Remember, it's only a club if the members get involved

Stay safe and keep those cars greasy side down!

*Edie*

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### In Memoriam...

Thelma Durbin

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# ACORN 2011 Calendar

## 2011 ACORN Officers

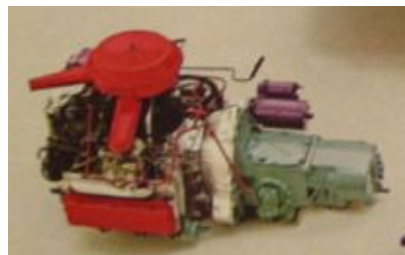
President – Edie Ellis  
 Vice President – Jeff Clark  
 Secretary – Jim Bartasevich  
 Treasurer – Dave Shoemaker

**Appointed Positions:**  
 Newsletter Editor – Jim Cleveland  
 Webmaster – Marissa Andolino  
 Membership – Dave Shoemaker  
 Historian – Dave Ellis  
 Tech Session Coordinator - Open

Date	Day	Event	Host	Status
Jan 16th	Sun	2010 Planning Meeting	Jeff and Dave	Completed
Feb 13th	Sun	Valentine's Day Dinner	Betsy Fling	Completed
Mar. 19th	Sat.	Turbo Display motor assembly Contact Dave Ellis	Chuck Flacklam	
April 2nd	Sat.	Simply Crepes in Canandaigua How to make Crepes	Edie Ellis	Page #5
April 9th	Sat	Tech Session Powerglide Diagnosis and repair	Jerry Fling	
April 30th	Sat.	Tech Session at George Conboy's Super Garage	George Conboy	
May		MCC Tech Session	Paul Masters	TBD
June 5th	Sun	Auto Festival, Farmington, NY	Club Event	
June 10, 11, 12	Fri. Sat Sun	Central NY Corvair Club Recall Corvair Event	Club Event	
July 17th	Sun	Genesee Valley Antique Car Society Car Show	Club Event	
July	Sun	Watkins Glen Tour and Track	J. Clark	TBD
Aug. 7th	Sun	ACORN Annual Picnic	S. Dietrick	
Oct 9th	Sun	Fall Color & Cheese Tour	J. Bartasevich	
Nov 13th	Sun	Annual Christmas Dinner Steamboat Landing	D. Shoemaker	

February						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

March						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



**NEXTEVENT**  
*March 19th*  
*Building the Turbo Motor for Display*  
*Contact Dave Ellis for time and travel information.*

**Jim Bartasevich's "The Sixty-Niner"**  
**Newsletter Article**



The 500s are the orphans of the Corvair line. Everyone wants a Monza or Corsa; but they still have their charms. This photo was taken at the '69 Reunion in Richmond, VA, in 1999. The guy giving it the "lean test" is your editor. Here's a little information about me: Actually, I am a safety consultant for business and industry. I'm in my early 60s, and I'm married with two adult daughters. [We'll be adding a chocolate Lab this spring.] My "winter" car is a 2006 VW GTI, Mk V. History, antique farm equipment and RMS Titanic are a few of my other hobbies. [Do you see a trend here with "old" things?] I'm a CSP, a Certified Safety Professional. Huh? A safety guy who owns a Corvair? [Four, actually.] I have a Lakewood [140/4 speed], a '64 Spyder convertible, a '65 Corsa coupe [140/4 speed], and the 500 [110/PG] you see above. I got the Corvair bug when I learned to drive on my parents' '65 500 coupe, 110/4speed. That's all it took. I "converted" it to a Corsa with some exterior trim and paint, a dual exhaust [glass packs, of course] and IECO 2bbl ram induction. While in college, my father had an accident with it in 1971. Fortunately, the only injury he had was a minor cut on his lip. Unfortunately, the 500's "injuries" were fatal. I was busy in college in my junior year at that time and was without a car anyway, so I wasn't desperate. [I had joined CORSA as a charter member, so I was still "attached" to the Corvair.] When my senior year arrived, I was going to need a car for job hunting, and there was no question about what kind of car it would be. Wanting to move up to a luxurious Monza or Corsa, I began my search in the spring of 1972 in Eastern Ohio where I lived. There were slim pickings in the small towns in the area, so I went to Pittsburgh for a look. Surprisingly, there weren't many to be found, most apparently having become victims of the salty winters. Back home, my father told me that he heard about a Corvair for sale, right in our home town. Off I went and found, somewhat disappointedly, a 500 coupe with a PG. Great; another basic car, and it has a PG. Lots of class and sport with this one. However, it didn't take me too long to get over my lack of enthusiasm, so I decided to buy it. 4575 was used as a second car, a "work" car, and sat outside. It had its share of nicks, dings minor surface rust spots, and a few small creases from several "misjudgments" by the owner. However, it had only 28,000 miles on it, it was all original, and it had been rustproofed by Ziebart. This was the clincher. I found a job that summer and had it repainted in it's original Garnet red the following year. I drove it to the first two Lime Rock Corvair events and the 1974 Chicago CORSA convention. [I found the Spyder the same year, so the "stigma" of a PG in a base car disappeared.] It now has about 48,000 miles on it. In 1977 I took it to the Minneapolis CORSA convention. I've grown to appreciate the 500s. The lack of adornment e m p h a s i z e s h o w stunning [Yes, I said stunning.] the design of the late models are. There are very few cars that have looked good through all the eras of automotive design in which they've existed. You can see the other members of my Corvair family on my Facebook page.



**Thank you to Ken Willard**

Ken Willard is a Fairport resident who just happens to be a Corvair fan. Actually more than a fan as he was a Service Manager for Rochester Products in the time of the Corvair. Ken is a fuel systems expert for sure traveling the world doing training and trouble shooting for fuel systems. He also happens to have a '64 Spyder convertible with under 50,000 miles and in wonderful condition. Besides his tenure at Rochester Products Ken had an extensive career as a P51 Mustang support person in England during WWII. Pictures of P51 Mustangs proudly cover his walls alone a picture of the Air Craft Carrier USS Enterprise on which his Mustang squadron was brought home after the war. The only Air Force person I know who did a tour on a Navy Ship!

Ken has graciously donated a low mile engine, cylinder jugs and several NOS carburetors to the ACORN's. Some of which will be used for the museum display the club is working on. Dave Ellis, Jim Bartasevich and I spent some enjoyable time with Ken at his home and basement workshops. I say shops because Ken is both a metal and a word working person.

We see Ken at the Tuesday evening cruse night in the Village of Fairport each summer. Maybe we can get him to join us at one or more of our events this summer.

*Jim Cleveland*

**Acorn Valentine Dinner - February 13, 2011**

The weather cooperated, and we had a 16 attendees at the ACORN Valentine dinner. The weather didn't cooperate enough to drive a Corvair, but there wasn't a blizzard either. Keenan's Restaurant in Irondequoit was great: Great food, great service, great location. We had our own room so we were free to whoop it up if we wanted. However, no one wanted to; but it was a nice time anyway. Special thanks to Jerry and Betsy Fling for making the arrangements. [This would be a great place for a holiday party if we ever needed a location.]

Those who attended were:

- Dave & Edie Ellis, Jerry & Betsy Fling, Dave & Yvonne Shaffer, Sam & Marissa Andolino, Steve & Pat Dietrick, Dave & Sande Shoemaker, Tom & Sylvia Nasman, Jim & Marlene Bartasevich

Reports were made, following the meeting agenda which was distributed by President Edie. Here's the latest on your club:

- **Treasurer's Report: Dave Shoemaker**

Dave reported that we have \$1513.22 in the treasury. Twenty-four members have renewed so far. Tom Nasman was the first to renew for 2011. Unfortunately, we don't have a prize for that accomplishment, Tom. The two, \$200 scholarships for the MCC auto tech program were sent, and we have received a thank-you note from them. We don't have the date for our ACORN day at the MCC shop yet. The updated membership roster will be available in April. It will be distributed only to ACORN members.

- **ACORN Calendar Updates** [times will appear in *ACORNNews*]

- ⊗ March 19 Tech: Work on assembling the turbo engine for display; The work will be done at Chuck Facklam's. Dave Ellis will be leading the drive to Chuck's. Contact Dave for the time.
- ⊗ April 2 How to Make Crepes: This will be a hands-on project to make your own crepes and then have them for dinner [you won't have to make the dessert; it's included]. It will be at the Canandaigua location of Simply Crepes, and they are preparing a meal just for us. The cost is \$35/per person. The club will cover the tax and gratuity. Contact Dave or Edie Ellis to reserve your place in the kitchen: **227-2439** or [dellis1@rochester.rr.com](mailto:dellis1@rochester.rr.com) **RSVP is due by MARCH 25<sup>TH</sup>**. Dave & Edie need to know if any of those attending have any specific food issues/allergies. The meal can be made vegetarian.
- ⊗ April 9 Tech: At Jerry Fling's to exorcise the gremlins in the PG of his convertible. Bring a Chevy bow-tie emblem instead of a crucifix. RSVP
- ⊗ April 30 Tech: Hosted by George Conboy. RSVP
- ⊗ October 9: ACORN Cheese Tour. This will be a Sunday like last year. Details will become available as the date gets nearer.

- **Tom Nasman's Parts Sale**

This is tentatively planned for May or June. Watch the event calendar for the day and time.

- **Ken Willard's Parts Donation**

Ken has donated a number of NOS carbs to the club [all sold except for one for a '68; check with Dave Ellis if you want to buy it] as well as a very nice '63 102 HP manual transmission engine. It has about 48,000 miles on it [I think; check with Dave E.]. The club is going to go through it to replace the usual seals and gaskets and then offer it for sale. Ken used to work at Rochester Products which made all of the Corvair carbs except for those used on the turbos.

- **Joint Meeting With CNYCC**

We haven't coordinated the day, time, or nature of our meeting with the CNYCC. Watch for updates in *ACORNNews*.

- **Website Update**

Webmaster Marissa Andolino told us that the software we used for our site is essentially obsolete and doesn't work well. It's getting "long in the tooth." There was a reference to Sam as well. There is only one choice for software, and that is Adobe. It costs \$600. After a pause to let us recover [cold water on the face, smelling salts, etc.], Marissa said that she also does a website for another organization and that we can split the cost with them. It was agreed upon and voted in favor. The website has been a good means for people wanting to contact the ACORNs to join or sell a car.

- **Clark's Corvair Parts Catalog Set**

Dave Ellis announced that the club has one set of the current Clark's catalogs available. Contact Dave to buy it.

**Jim Bartasevich**  
Secretary

## **How to Make Crepes Event**

**Howdy all.....could not wait for the next ACORNEWS to get this scoop out to the membership!!**

**The APRIL ACORNS Simply Crepes Event is a go....**

**It will be held at SIMPLY CREPES at the Canandagua location, on Main Street,**

**The date for this event is Saturday April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2:00 PM start**

**They will be learning how to make crepes,,,and enjoying a crepes meal, including dessert.**

**The club is covering tax and gratuity...so the total out of pocket per couple is just \$70. Or \$35 per person for singles...**

**They will be designing a meal specifically for us...and to do so....**

**We need to know if any of those attending have any specific food issues/allergies....**

**The meal can be made vegetarian for whoever requires or desires that feature...**

**If there is any is any possibility of you attending, this information is required by end of day Saturday February 19<sup>th</sup> to allow for our menu planning.**

**This sounds like a really neat, special, unique event....something that we have not done before.... hope you can attend and enjoy..**

**RSVP is required no later than March 25<sup>th</sup>.**

**You may respond to this E-mail or call us at 227-2439**

**Dave and Edie Ellis....**



whatscooking.us

**AN INVITATION TO OUR 36TH**

**RECALL!**

**Syracuse, NY**

**June 10-12, 2011**

I would like to invite all Corvair owners and lovers to the 36th Recall. Our first Recall was 1975, a dream of the founder of CNYCC, Bob Waters and we proudly carry on the tradition.

This year's Recall will take place on June 10-12th 2011 at the Hilton Garden Inn, 6004 Fair Lakes Road, East Syracuse, NY 13057. Call (315) 431-4800 for room reservations and mention the Corvair Club for a special rate of \$95 / night. Friday night we will attend a cruise-in at Bella Domani, 5988 E. Taft Rd. They will have food that you may purchase on site. A delicious BBQ for only \$6.00 will be available.

Our Recall will, of course, include our famous hospitality room with munchies available all the time and a lunch Saturday at noon. Lunch will have sandwiches, chips, cold vegetable platters, and fruits. And to top it off the ladies always surprise us with some great desserts. This is available for all Registered Recall attendees. A food vender is located on the Concours site if you want to buy a hot meal.

Saturday morning will start off with Concours and Car display Judging until noon. Just across the road autocross will start after lunch. Come prepared for a technical drive. The Funkhana and model car display will finish the afternoon. The Awards Banquet is Saturday night, with a buffet feast fit for a king. We'll have 18 trophies that will be awarded.

The valve cover race is after breakfast on Sunday morning. For those that want to go shopping, Syracuse has a large shopping mall. A garden nursery to die for is just a short drive away and the Erie Canal Museum is located nearby in down town Syracuse. Hope you can all attend and we look forward to seeing everyone again this year!

Dave Robinson, Recall chairman

**ETHANOL AND YOUR OLD CAR**

A great deal of information is floating around classic car enthusiast about ethanol, and for good reason. The general consensus appears to be that even 10% is not good over the long haul for our classic Corvair's. (I won't even go to the use of our direct and indirect food source for fuel discussion). It is a fact that ethanol is highly corrosive and does a job on seals and gaskets of older cars. It also has a much higher evaporation rate than straight gasoline. Corvair owners have reported a 10%-15% drop in fuel mileage and a noticeable decline in power. Corvair forums have identified rough idle and contaminated carburetors using E10 (10% Ethanol). Now just may be the time to begin adding one of the special ethanol protection stabilizers/treatments to your gas tank. *editor*

**Effects**

Low concentrations of ethanol (around 5 to 10 percent) may weaken and eventually destroy rubber parts such as gaskets and seals. As concentrations get higher, ethanol removes build-up in the gas tank that could then get caught in other parts.

**Potential**

Ethanol tends to retain water. This water retention could rust gas tanks and cause water damage to other components.

**Considerations**

The exact effects of gasohol on older cars will depend on the particular year and model of the car, as well as the percent of ethanol in the gasohol compound.

**Prevention/Solution**

Car owners should clean out their car's fuel tank and seal it with an ethanol-proof material if they are worried about potential complications from ethanol. People not planning to use an old car for a while should add a fuel stabilizer.

Some additional information can be found at:

[classiccars.about.com/od/maintenancetips/a/Ethanol.htm](http://classiccars.about.com/od/maintenancetips/a/Ethanol.htm)

[www.hagerty.com](http://www.hagerty.com)

[www.wired.com/autopia/2008/01/think-twice-bef/](http://www.wired.com/autopia/2008/01/think-twice-bef/)

**Tidewater Corvair  
Club**

***2011 Virginia Vair Fair***

Celebrating  
the 50th Anniversary of  
the '61 Corvair, May  
13-14, 2011  
Chesapeake, Virginia.

Games, People's Choice  
car  
show, valve cover races,  
raffles, food, vendors

Location: Norfolk Marriott  
Chesapeake, 725  
Woodlake Drive,  
Chesapeake, VA  
23320, \$99 + tax room  
rate per night,  
Reservations: (888)  
236-2427 or (757)  
523-1500, ask for the  
Corvair Fair rate.

For information and  
registration, see  
[http://www.corvair.org/  
chapters/tidewater/  
vairfair.html](http://www.corvair.org/chapters/tidewater/vairfair.html), or contact  
John  
Gilliland, (757)471-4278  
[jwg1701@cox.net](mailto:jwg1701@cox.net)

**NORWICH MUSEUM**

Pete Koehler is at it again. He has made arrangements for a 1 year Corvair display at the Norwich Museum. ( Norwich is south of Syracuse near Morrisville in our own beloved N.Y.S.) The display so far will consist of the cutaway engine we used for our Buffalo display and road show and one of Pete's early 60's. I have suggested we could add our Turbo display engine except for the week its going to Flint. The museum would like a nice Spyder to add to the display. Any thoughts on anyone who might own a really clean Spyder that they would be interested in putting in a Museum for a year?

**In Memoriam...**

It is with a sad heart I note the recent passing of Thelma Durbin. Predeceased by her husband, Ralph, they were one of the founding couples of the ACORNS back in the middle 1970's. There are still a few of us around that have very fond memories of events held at their wonderful home on Conesus Lake. Ralph gave the ACORNS the opportunity to assist him clear his lifetime collection of Corvair "goodies" from his property several years ago. At that point they could no longer maintain the home on the lake that they so dearly loved. There are several shelves in my basement that are loaded with "booty" from that event. Edie and I represented the ACORNS at Thelma's Memorial Service held in Livonia on February 23<sup>rd</sup>. May they both be in our prayers.

Respectfully submitted by Dave and Edie Ellis



## FOR SALE & MARKET PLACE

### FOR SALE

1961 Corvair Station Wagon (Lakewood)  
64 110hp motor / manual 3 spd trans  
White w/Red interior ashing \$2,500  
Located in Atlanta, Contact Ken Falls  
404-213-9935  
[kenfallsmovement@bellsouth.net](mailto:kenfallsmovement@bellsouth.net)

### Nasman Clean-Out

Word on the street is that Tom is “really ready” to clean out his remaining Corvair parts stock. The event co-chair will be Dave Ellis, please stay tuned for further details.

### P185/80R 13 RADIALS

We now have a limited supply of these hard to find tires in stock. We do not know if we will be able to get more of these tires in the future, so get yours now while we have them in stock. We can strap 4 tires together for shipping. We now have these in stock, they are Maxxis brand. C12601 AT \$89.00 ea

Clarks Corvair Parts 400 Mohawk Trail  
Shelburne Falls, Ma 01370  
413-625-9776 [www.corvair.com](http://www.corvair.com)



For Sale 1964 Corvair Spyder Turbo Convertible, Beautifully ResTored , This Classic has been done for you, jump in and enjoy from the time you leave the showroom...[www.AnBclassics.com](http://www.AnBclassics.com) call 518-572-1152 or 518-483-8025

**Malone, NY**  
**STOCK/INV. NUMBER: 407323**



**'65 MID ENGINE V8** Mileage: 84,000 Condition: Good Interior: Tan ultra-leather Exterior: Kandy Apple Tangerine Sisters, Oregon. Built by owner in 1967, no kit. 327 V8, 112 mph (12.8 sec.) quarter mile. \$25,000 or best offer. Check Hemmings Motor News Classified for contacts. [Hemmings.com/classified](http://Hemmings.com/classified).