

ACORN News



August 2014

Association of Corvair Nuts

Rochester, NY

CORSA Chapter 148

Volume No. 39, Issue No. 07

Greetings ACORNs,

It's hard to believe we are halfway through the summer of 2014! Seems like just yesterday that we were dreaming of warmer weather. Summer being in full swing, I hope everyone is busy working on and driving your Corvairs. I've been driving mine so much that I haven't done much work to them. I will get to that laundry list before cooler weather sets in.

July was a kind of slow month for us. Out of 6 scheduled events, 5 had question marks on my calendar. We participated in 2 as a club. The 4th of July parade in Canandaigua was sort of up in the air. There was an informal "show up if you want" air about it. I'm not sure why we weren't more organized for this event. We ended up with 3 cars, Ellis', Boudway and myself. Was there another? I'm sure it was just the 3 cars. I was disappointed. The next day, Friday the 5th was the car show at Van Bortle Chevrolet. We did better at that one with 6 cars showing. There were 4 other events on the calendar that didn't happen. Come on people! Out of thirty-some members this is the best we can do? The future of our club depends on member participation.

In other news, The Nasman and Ellis parts stashes have been pretty much liquidated. What was left over after the garage sales went to our new member (who's name escapes me...sorry) in Spencerport. This, I am told, will be the new home of the club parts stash. I believe Tom Nasman has a few NOS items left for sale, mostly for late models.

Events scheduled for August include; The GVAC show at Roberts Wesleyan College on the 3rd, Annual picnic and white elephant sale (location tba) and the Super Cruise night in Perry on Thursday the 21st. We also have a date scheduled for a tech session, with no one signed up, for Saturday the 23rd. That's it in a nutshell. I do hope to see some more of you at our functions.

Paul.

ACORN OFFICERS

President – Paul Abel
Vice President – Dave Shoemaker
Secretary – Event Host
Treasurer – Jeff Clark

APPOINTED POSITIONS

Newsletter Editor – Steve Dietrick
Web Master – Marissa Andolino
Membership – Jeff Clark
Historian – Paul Abel
Tech Session Cordinator – Open

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Publication of the Rochester, NY
"Association of Corvair Nuts"

Contact

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ACORN 2014 CALENDAR

DATE	DAY	EVENT	HOST	STATUS
Jan. 12	Sun.	2014 Planning Meeting	Jeff Clark	Complete
Feb.16	Sun.	Valentine Diner	Sande & Dave Shoemaker	Complete
Mar.16	Sun.	NY Museum of Transportation Rochester	Lew Gurley	Complete
April 12	Sat.	Strong Museum of Play	Dave Ellis	Complete
May 03	Sat.	Tech Session @ MCC	Bill Boadway	Complete
May 17	Sat.	Riter Restoration Shop Tour	Jim Cleveland	Complete
May 25	Sat.	Tech Session	Paul Abel	Canceled
June 6 7 & 8	Fri.- Sun.	Syracuse Recall Event Central New York Corvair Club		
June 15	Sun.	Sonnenberg Gardens Father's Day Car Show – Canandaigua, NY	Show-up event	Complete
June 21	Sat.	Tech Session	Dave Ellis	
July 4	Fri.	4 th of July Parade – Canandaigua		Complete
July 13	Sun.	Archectural Tour - Buffalo	Jeff Clark	Canceled
July 26	Sun.	Tech Session – need work?		
Aug. 17	Sun.	Annual Club Picnic And White Elephant Sale	Pat Dietrick	RSVP
Aug.23	Sat.	Tech Session – need work?		
Sept.06	Sun.	Tech Session – need work?		
Sept.14	Sun.	Corvairs on the Hill	Fred Marsh	RSVP
Oct.12	Sun.	Fall Color Tour	TBD	
Nov.16	Sun.	Holiday/Year End Dinner	Sande & Dave Shoemaker	RSVP

August						
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						

September						
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			



[Other Events, Cruise Nites, etc.](#)

August 3 Genese Valley AACA...Robert Wesleyan College
 August 21 Silver Lake Super Cruise...Silver Lake Drive-in, Perry
 Tuesday Evenings: Burgundy Basin Inn, Burgundy Basin
 Wednesday Evenings: Log Cabin Restaurant, Macedon
 Thursday Evenings: Wegmans, Canandaigua

- Other events, cruise nites.....Let your editor know.

Tech Sessions are scheduled
 For August 23 and again September 06
 Does anyone need work done to their Corvair
 Or Help with their Corvair.
 Speak up, club members are here to help.

Wikipedias take on the Corvair

The **Chevrolet Corvair** was a compact automobile produced by the Chevrolet division of General Motors for the 1960–1969 model years. It was the only American designed, mass-produced passenger car to feature a rear-mounted air-cooled engine.

The Corvair range included a two-door coupe, convertible, four-door sedan, and four-door station wagon body styles, as well as in passenger van, commercial van, and pickup truck derivatives. The range competed with imported cars such as the original Volkswagen Beetle, as well as the Ford Falcon, Plymouth Valiant, and Studebaker Lark, that were new entries in the compact car market segment that was established in the U.S. by the 1950 Nash Rambler, which was reintroduced in 1958 as the Rambler American.

The Corvair's legacy was affected by controversy surrounding its handling, which led to its inclusion in Ralph Nader's Unsafe at Any Speed. Subsequently, in 1972, Texas A&M University conducted a safety commission report on the Corvair for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration; it found that the 1960–1963 Corvairs possessed no greater potential for loss of control than its contemporaries in extreme situations.

History

In 1952, Edward N. Cole, known as Ed Cole, was promoted to chief engineer of the Chevrolet Motor Division. Four years later, in July 1956, he was named general manager of Chevrolet — GM's largest automotive division — and a vice president of General Motors. At Chevrolet, Cole pushed for many of the major engineering and design advancements introduced in the Chevrolet car and truck lines between 1955 and 1962. He was the moving force behind the development and production of the rear-engined, air-cooled Corvair. Despite its infamous history, the Corvair was a ground-breaking small car in its day. As chief engineer, he was heavily involved in the development of the Corvette sports car. He is also known as the "father" of the small block Chevy V8, one of the most celebrated engines in automotive history.

Until 1960, the "Big Three" domestic auto manufacturers (General Motors, Ford, and Chrysler) produced only one basic size of passenger cars: large. However, a successful modern "compact car" market segment was established in the U.S. by the 1950 Nash Rambler. Moreover, imports from Europe, such as Volkswagen, Renault, and Fiat, showed that there was demand in the U.S. for small cars, often as a second car or an alternative for budget-minded consumers. While the "Big Three" continued to introduce ever-larger cars during the 1950s, the newly formed American Motors Corporation (AMC) focused its business strategy on smaller-sized and fuel-efficient automobiles, years before there was a real need for them.^[2] Because it was a small company compared to the Big Three U.S. automakers, AMC positioned itself as a "dinosaur-fighter" and its compact-sized Rambler models rose to third place among domestic automobile sales. American Motors also reincarnated its predecessor company's smallest Nash model as the "new" 1958 Rambler American for a second model run, an almost unheard of phenomenon in automobile history.

History (continued)

During 1959 and 1960, the Big Three automakers planned to introduce their own "compact" cars. Most of these designs were scaled-down versions of the conventional American car, using four- or six-cylinder engines instead of V8s, and with bodies about 20% smaller than their standard cars.

An exception to this strategy was the Chevrolet Corvair. Led by General Manager Cole, Chevrolet designed a revolutionary new car. It was powered by an air-cooled horizontal six-cylinder engine made almost entirely out of aluminum. The engine was mounted in the rear of the car, driving the rear wheels through a compact automatic transaxle. Suspension was independent at all four wheels. There was no conventional frame, it was the first Unibody built by Fisher Body. The tires were an entirely new wide low-profile design. The styling was unconventional for Detroit: subtle and elegant, with no tailfins or chrome grille. Its engineering earned numerous patents, while *Time* magazine put Ed Cole and the Corvair on the cover, and *Motor Trend* named the Corvair as the 1960 "Car of the Year".

Overview]

The Corvair's sales exceeded 200,000 for each of its first six model years. The rear-engine design offered packaging and economy advantages, providing the car with a lower silhouette, flat passenger compartment floor, removing the need for power assists, and offered improvements in ride quality, traction, and braking balance. The design also attracted customers of other makes, primarily imports. The Corvair stood out, with engineering significantly different from other American offerings. It used GM's Z-body, with design and engineering that advanced the rear-engine, rear-wheel drive layout pioneered by cars including the Tatra 77, Tucker Torpedo, Porsche 356, Volkswagen Beetle, Renault Dauphine, and NSU Prinz—and employed by the concurrent and short-lived Hino Contessa.

The Corvair's powerplant was an aluminum air-cooled 140 cu in (2.3 L) flat-six (later enlarged, first to 145 and then to 164 cubic inches). The first Corvair engine produced 80 hp (60 kW; 81 PS). Power peaked with the 1965–66 turbocharged 180 hp (134 kW; 182 PS) Corsa engine option. The first generation model's swing axle rear suspension, invented and patented by engineer Edmund Rumpler, offered a comfortable ride but raised safety concerns associated with the car's handling stability, and was replaced in 1965 with a fully independent rear suspension similar to the Corvette Sting Ray.

The Corvair represented several breakthroughs in design for mass-produced Detroit vehicles, with 1,786,243 cars produced between 1960 and 1969.

Continued next month

ACORNS ANNUAL PICNIC and WHITE ELEPHANT SALE, August 17, 2014

Where: Gypsum Mills Community Center, 6392 Plastermill Rd., Victor, NY 14564

When: Sunday August 17, 12:00 – 4:00

The club will be providing, Hot Dogs, Hamburgs, Italian Sausage, Buns, Condiments & water.

Pat will be preparing her world famous Potato Salad.

Please bring a dish to pass. Let Pat know what you will be bringing so as not have duplications.

Bring your chairs for outdoor seating, we will move inside should it rain or be to hot.

Bring your FOR SALE items (Corvair and non-Corvair) with all proceeds going to the club Treasury.

Please RSVP to Pat at (585)742-8579

Corvair Parts For Sale

Tom will accept reasonable offers, use your Clarks Catalog as a guide.

4 Delco Guide rear lens 5958761

2 Delco Guide front lens 5956199 2 Delco Guide front lens 5956200

4 General Motors Corsa hub cap inserts number Gr5.871 3878322

4 wheel aluminum well moulding s for 1966-1969 in GM wrappers

1 196 rear aluminum grill cover

1 late model speedometer cable for Corsa

I have other parts used and new parts including rubber parts and window fuzzies.

Tom Nasman,

Contact me at tnasman@rochester.rr.com or 585-621-8988

FOR SALE and MARKETPLACE

For Sale – Price Reduced

Marina Blue 1966 Turbo Corvair Coupe -
\$17,000

Full Concours restoration. CORSA Concours d'Elegance Winner. This head turning car is turn key and just needs to be loved and driven.

For Sale: 1964 Corvair Convertible

Fully Restored, 20K miles, yellow
3 speed manual Transmission
Car is located near Du Bois, PA
\$11,500 Negotiable

Contact: Bob Morris (814)583-5425

Car broke down? Need to get a car to the shop/ home?

Call Dave Shoemaker (585) 393-1912. Dave has a trailer with winch.

AM Radio repairs : Retired Electrical Engineer, repairs , cleans, and tunes AM car radios, for a little extra cash and as a hobby. Located just south of Canandaigua. Call Len at (585) 396-3454

Our 41st Year!
Get the New 2013-2018 Catalog
If you did not get our new catalog in 2013, you can get one free on your first \$50 order during 2014.

(Additional catalogs \$3 with an order)

The new Catalog includes parts from the last 5

Supplements as well as 100's of improvements.

This is our most major revision ever.



Clark's Corvair Parts®

400 Mohawk Trail, Shelburne Falls, MA 01370

(413)625-9776 www.corvair.com

FOR SALE

1964 Corvair exterior trim, NORS in original packing and cartons.

NORS in original packing and cartons, Clark's Corvair catalog numbers.

C7709L&R or C7709CL&CR Pr. Of door sills. Don't know if for coupe or convertible

C7708 Pr. of rocker panel trim

C7708R.Pr. Of rocker trim retainers

C279A Set of 4 fender trim pieces

C276AX Set of 4 "Dog Legs"

C10016 Pr. Of rear floor mats for 4-door

Will sell only as a lot: \$600.00 FOB Canandaigua, NY Contact Bill Boudway @ (585) 394-6172