

Vair-iations

VOLUME 42, NUMBER 6

June/July 2014



Formed By And For Those Who Still Appreciate The CORVAIR Automobile

Note: Membership dues are due July 1st

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Club Membership - \$10.00 per year for e-mail newsletter. \$15 per year for postal newsletter. Dues may be paid at monthly meeting or by mailing:

Sending to the Club address: Membership year runs from July 1 to June 30.

-----Membership APPLICATION-----

NIAGARA FRONTIER CORVAIR CLUB

NAME _____ CORSA Member? Yes/No _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

DATE _____ Check one: E-Mail _____ Postal _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: NIAGARA FRONTIER CORVAIR CLUB

Niagara Frontier Corvair Club
C/O Gary Swiatowy
7838 Chestnut Ridge Road,
Gasport, NY 14067

-----ESTABLISHED 1973-----

A Chartered Chapter of the Corvair Society of America

President	Pat Murphy	(716) 861-8749
Vice President	Joe Pendolino	(716) 837-5070
Secretary	John Dawley/Joe Pendolino	(716) 832-8551
Treasurer	Bob Guerin	(716) 751-6033
Membership	Joe Grifasi	(716) 688-6401

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Vair-iations Editor.....Gary Swiatowy 7838 Chestnut Ridge Road Gasport, NY 14067
(716) 439-5194 Email....gswiatowy@rochester.rr.com (716) 439-5194

...NFCC EVENTS, AND OTHER GOOD STUFF

- JULY 1 - FROSTY'S BIKE & CRUISE - Frosty's Zoar Valley Inn, 10711 Hammond Hill Rd., East Otto, NY. 6pm. Sponsored by Frosty's Zoar Valley Inn. INFO: Bar 716-592-4911, Tom 716-983-9719.
- JULY 2 - CRUZIN FOR SCOUTS 2014 - Emerling Chevrolet, 9000 Boston State Road, Boston, NY. 4-9pm. Free to Public. Terry Buckwald from 5-8pm. Sponsored by Kingfish Services & Emerling Chevrolet. INFO: Ray 716-941-3701.
- JULY 2 - VFW POST 1419 & THE DRIFTERS CRUISE WITH BABY JOE MESI - VFW Post 1419, 2985 Lakeview Rd., Hamburg, NY. 5-9pm. Charity event to benefit Anti Bullying. Sponsored by The Drifters. INFO: Wally 716-390-5495.
- JULY 3 - AKRON CRUISE NITE - TOPLESS IN THE PARK - Enter at Skyline Just off Buell, Akron, NY -
- JULY 3 - SOUTHTOWNS CHRISTIAN CENTER CAR CRUISE - Corner 20 & Lakeview Rd., 6619 Southwestern Blvd., NY. 5pm. Sponsored by The Drifters. INFO: Wally 716-390-5495.
- JULY 4 - CHEEKTOWAGA 4th OF JULY PARADE - Thruway Mall, Walden at Harlem Cheektowaga, NY. Assemble at 10:30 at Thruway Mail, parade at noon. Parade route - Walden to Harlem - down Harlem. Sponsored by Friends of Rodandpiston.com, Altered Illusions, www.nymustangs.com. INFO: at www.rodandpiston.com.
- JULY 5 - K-S AUTO STORE SATURDAY MORNING SWAP MEET - 811 Niagara St, Tonawanda, NY. 8am-noon. Sponsored by K-S Auto Store. INFO: Gary 716-692-8222. SEE BACK PAGE.**
- JULY 6 - ANNUAL HARBOR CRUISE - Point Gratiot Park, Rt. 5, Dunkirk, NY. Noon-5pm. FREE Admission, Donations accepted for local charities, Refreshments available. INFO: Dan 716-366-6582, Tom 716-870-2339.**
- JULY 6 - TRI-FIVE OF WNY 39th ANNUAL CAR EVENT OF THE SUMMER - Great Pumpkin Farm (Near Antique World), 11199 Main St Clarence, NY. 8am-5pm. Open to all makes of cars and trucks. Sponsored by Tri-Five of WNY. INFO: Donna 716-634-1149.**
- JULY 8 - FOUR SCORE ANNUAL PICNIC - Como Park Bowen Rd., Grove Broadway & Bowen Rd., Lancaster, NY. 5-9pm. Sponsored by Four Score Club (Friends of Auto Racing). INFO: Paul 716-983-8008.
- JULY 8 - UNCLE JOE'S DINER INDEPENDENCE DAY CRUISE - Uncle Joe's Diner, 4869 Southwestern Blvd., Hamburg, NY. 5pm-Dusk. INFO: Mike 716-648-7154, email: unclejoesdiner@hotmail.com.
- JULY 9 - SALVATORE'S ITALIAN GARDEN SUPER CRUISE - Genesee & Transit Rd., Lancaster, NY. 5:30-9pm. Awards, Dinner Gift Certificate to each entrant. Sponsored by Corvettes of Buffalo. INFO: Bob 716-432-1672, Frank 716-694-9024, www.corvettesofbuffalo.com.
- JULY 10 - AKRON CRUISE NITE -TRACTOR NIGHT- Akron, NY -
- JULY 11 - NIGHT OF FIRE - Elegant Builders Raceway, Lancaster, NY. Top Fuel, Jet Cars. INFO: 716-759-6818.
- JULY 11 - PADDOCK CHEVROLET 16th ANNUAL SUPER CRUISE - 3232 Delaware Ave., Kenmore, NY. 4-9pm. Ave closed. Special gift First 400 Cars. Sponsored by Paddock Chevrolet. INFO: Bill 716-261-1114.**
- JULY 12 - 4th ANNUAL PIRATES FESTIVAL CAR SHOW - Krull Park, Lake Rd, Rt 18, Olcott, NY. 9am-3pm. INFO: Show Ray 716-799-4974, Vendors 716-628-6252, www.pirateautoshow.com.
- JULY 12 - CRUISE AROUND THE LAKE - Wing City, 804 Fairmont Ave., Lakewood, NY. Cruisin' 4pm-6:30pm. Leave 6:30pm SHARP. Sponsored by Southern Tier Classic Chevy Car Club. INFO: Greg 716-763-8659, www.stcchevyclub.com.
- JULY 12 - EMERLING FORD MUSTANG 50th CELEBRATION - Emerling Ford / Holland Speedway. 11am. Sponsored by Emerling Ford. INFO: Delaney 716-592-4949 ext 120, email: delaney@emerlingford.com
- JULY 13 - CLUTCH ARTISTS / SENECA ALLEGANY CAR SHOW - Seneca Allegany Casino, Rt. 477 at I-86, Salamanca, NY - Reg.- 9am-noon. Awards 4pm. FREE to Entrants. Presented by The Clutch Artists. INFO: 716-895-7099, Mike 716-574-4545, day of show 716-548-3695, www.clutchartists.com**
- JULY 13 - FORD LORDS 36th ANNUAL CAR SHOW - George F. Lamm Post, 962 Wehrle Dr., Williamsville, NY. Gates open 8:30am. Open to all makes and models. INFO: Barb 716-633-9353, Dennis 716-892-6181, Paula 716-741-1002, www.fordlords.com.**
- JULY 13 - 3rd ANNUAL MUSCLE CAR SHOOTOUT, DRAG RACE, CAR SHOW - Elegant Builders Raceway Park, 57 Gunnville Rd., Lancaster, NY. Gates open 11am. Time Trials Noon. Racing 2pm. INFO: 716-812-6702, email: covote42kv@gmail.com
- JULY 13 - 26th MOTOR CYCLE MYSTERY RIDE - Southgate Plaza West Seneca, NY. Sign up 10:30am-noon. Sponsored by ABATE Of NY Buffalo/ Erie Chapter. American Bikers Aimed Toward Education. INFO: Damian 716-825-2627.
- JULY 13 - OLDE SANBORN DAYS CLASSIC CAR CRUISE IN - Sanborn Fire Hail RT. 429 (Ward Road) near Rt 31, Sanborn, NY -11 AM 6PM - Sponsored by Niagara Co. Central Rotary Club - INFO- Bob 716-731-9623.

- JULY 16 - DELACY FORD ANNUAL SUPER CRUISE- DeUcy Ford 3061 Transit Rd. Eima, NY-4 PM-9 PM. Sponsored by DeLacy Ford, Rino Linings of Buffalo- INFO- DeLacy Ford 716668-1200, www.delacyford.com
- JULY 16 - VFW POST 1419 & THE DRIFTERS - VFW Post 1419 2985 Lakeview Rd. Hamburg, NY- 5 PM- 9 PM. Live Entertainment Wednesday- Sponsored by The Drifters - INFO- Wally 716 390-5495.
- JULY 17 - AKRON CRUISE NITE-TRUCK NIGHT- Akron, NY -
- JULY 17 -QUEEN OF HEAVEN CARNIVAL SUPER CRUISE- At Queen of Heaven Church Grounds, Seneca & Mill Sts., West Seneca, NY- 4 PM-10 PM- Sponsored by Queen Of Heaven Carnival- INFO- Terry 868-2896, Bob 675-1188,335-6499.
- JULY 18-20 - PPG SYRACUSE NATIONALS - Empire Expo Center NY Fairgrounds Syracuse, NY-8 AM-6 PM. Sunday 8 AM-3 PM- Presented by Right Coast Association. INFO: 800-753-3978, www.rightcoastcars.com**
- JULY 18 - ST JOHN THE BAPTIST 11m ANNUAL CAR SHOW & LAWN FETE - St John's parking lot 2021 Sandridge Rd. Alden, NY- 5 PM -9 PM- Entertainment and food - Sponsored by Drogi & Sons Automotive Inc. INFO- Eugene 937-7888.
- JULY 19 - EASTERN HILLS ANNUAL CAR CRUZE- Eastern Hill Wesleyan Church 8445 Griener Rd. Williamsville, NY. 11 AM-3 PM Sponsored by Eastern Hifls Wesleyan Church Men's Ministry. INFO- Mike- 716-688-7165 ext 129.
- JULY 19 - 4th ANNUAL MAN-UP CAR AND BIKE SHOW - East Amherst Fire Dept 9100 Transit Rd. East Amherst NY. 9 AM - 5 PM Sponsored by Mike & Nancy Redenbach. INFO- Michael 716-868-0564,716-772-2646.**
- JULY 19 - BURGERFEST CAR SHOW- On Main Street in The Village of Hamburg, Hamburg, NY- Noon -4 PM. Reg. starts at 9 AM- Sponsored By Key Bank. INFO: Sid 716-648-3350.**
- JULY 19 - OUR LADY OF PEACE NURSING HOME 3rd ANNUAL CAR SHOW- Behind St Marys Hospital 5285 Lewiston Rd. Lewiston, NY-10 AM - 4 PM- Proceeds to benefit The Residents of OLP, DJ, 50/50, Awards, Dash Plaques. Rain Date July 26. INFO-John 283-4144, Russ 622-2833.
- JULY 20 - 9th ANNUAL CRUISIN THE CREEK CAR SHOW - K of C NASH Council Hail 261 S. Legion Dr. South, Buffalo, NY -10 AM - 5 PM - Sponsored by Lombardo Funeral Home- INFO- Jim 393-3749,901-2163.
- JULY 20 - SHAWNEE EXEMPTS CAR SHOW - Shawnee Vol. Fire Co. 3747 Lockport Rd. Sanborn, NY -10 AM -4 PM. Sponsored by Shawnee Exempt's Fireman's Association. INFO- Doug 716-998-7634, email: dhinds@rochester.rr.com
- JULY 20 - WEST HERR CLASSIC CAR SHOW- West Herr Ford 5025 Camp Rd. Hamburg, NY- 9 AM-4 PM. INFO- Stephen / Don 716-649-5640, email: spankow@westherr.com, www.westherrcarshow.com.**
- JULY 21 - ADRIAN'S CUSTARD & BEEF MONTHLY CRUISE NIGHT- Adrian's Custard & Beef, 2335 Grand Island Blvd., Grand Island, NY. 5-9pm. Entertainment Raffles, Vendors. Free ice cream cone (includes the ice cream) for cruisers. 50/50 benefits Chron's & Colitis Foundation. Sponsored by Adrian's Custard & Beef. INFO: Toni 716-733-9242.
- JULY 21 - EAST AURORA VIETNAM VETERANS MONTHLY CRUISE NIGHT-
- JULY 22 - FAIRGROUNDS GAMING CRUISE NIGHTS- Monthly Cruise- The Fairgrounds Hamburg, NY - 5 PM -9 PM. Rain date July 29- INFO: Dawn 716-646-6109.**
- JULY 23 - **NFCC Meeting** BEACHWOOD'S ROOT BEER FLOAT CRUISE - Beachwood Homes, 2235 Miilersport Hwy., Getzville, NY. 6-8pm. An Alcohol free event Please. Refreshments, Entertainment, Raffles. Sponsored by Beachwood Homes. INFO: Joe 716-240-1471, Eileen 716-810-7370.
- JULY 24 - AKRON CRUISE NIGHT - LAND YACHTS -
- JULY 26 - ORCHARD PARK LIONS CLUB 20th ANNUAL QUAKER DAYS CAR & MOTORCYCLE SHOW & CRUISE - On North Buffalo St Village of Orchard Park, Orchard Park, NY. Registration 9am-11am. Meet at the Orchard Park High School Baker Rd lot. Show 11am-4pm. Proceeds to O.P. Lions Blind Charity Fund. Sponsored by Orchard Park Lions Club. INFO: Tony 716-662-1806 (eve), 716-479-5169 Days, Matt 716-646-6142 (eve).**
- JULY 26-27 - SANBORN-LEWISTON FARM FESTIVAL CAR CRUISE - Sanborn-Lewiston Farm Museum, Rt 31, 1 mile east of Rt 429, Sanborn, NY. BOTH DAYS - Saturday 8am-5pm. Sunday 9am-4pm. Sponsored by Sanborn Area Historical Society. INFO: Bob 716-731-9623.
- JULY 27 - NSRA APPRECIATION DAY - Klassy Kar Sales & Hot Rod Parts, 12072 Main Rd., Rt 5, Akron, NY. Noon-4pm. Sponsored by Klassy Kar Sales & Hot Rod Parts. NSRA. INFO: Gordy /Kevin 716-542-3150.
- JULY 27 - 11th ANNUAL MARILLA CAR, TRUCK, CYCLE SHOW & ARTS AND MUSIC FESTIVAL IN ALDEN - Alden Town Park Broadway and West Main St., Alden, NY. 9am-6pm. INFO: www.marillaautoshow.com, Mary 716-604-8458.
- JULY 27 - 13th ANNUAL DICK PENDLETON MEMORIAL CLASSIC CAR SHOW / SUPER CRUISE - Grand Island VFW Post 9247, 2121 Grand Island Blvd. Grand Island, NY. 10am-4pm. Dash plaques, Awards & Music By Cruise Control & Big Wheelie - IT'S FREE. Sponsored by Paddock Chevrolet, Tread City Tire. INFO: 716-553-1758.
- JULY 30 - K-S AUTO STORE SUPER CRUISE - 811 Niagara St., Tonawanda, NY. 6-9pm. Live Band Sponsored by K-S Auto Store. INFO: Gary 716-692-8222.**

JULY 31 - AKRON CRUISE NITE - BLUE OVAL FORD, LINCOLN, MERCURY - Akron, NY -

August 11th NFCC Meeting, Lockport Cruise Ida Fritz park, Van Night

August 28th NFCC Get Together, Akron Cruise Night, Orphan Car Night

NOTE: This calendar of events is not complete, there are many more events that are listed on the Clutch Artists calendar of events list that I e-mailed to you. More info on the events I have listed here are on that list as well. If you are a member who does not receive your newsletter by e-mail, if you contact me I can e-mail you a copy of the calendar of events to an e-mail address you may have access to. Gary gswiatowy@rochester.rr.com 716-439-5194

And plenty of the details on upcoming shows and cruises can be found at the Show and Cruise News website: <http://showandcruiseneews.com/> ore better yet subscribe and you may see your car in the pages!

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Bill Ryan sent in the following info: First Generation Corvair Parts, station wagon doors, hatch, roof, various parts, glass, motors, trannies, etc. \$400 B/O takes it all

Call Bob at 860-6729 Items are in Orchard Park.

Origin of the Fitch Phoenix, found on VV
written by Pete Koeller

John Fitch commissioned Frank Risner of Intermechanica in Italy to build the Phoenix prototype and then a series of 500 total units after that. The first and only one built started off life as a 1965 Corsa coupe. Simple reason? It was the only Corvair available to them in Italy at the time of construction. It had the base 140 engine and optional 4-speed transmission.

Once completed and shipped back to the USA the Phoenix suffered a dropped valve seat just before it was to be unveiled in New York City at Ambercombie and Fitch (no relation). A late night thrash at the Fitch Works in Falls Village, CT swapped out the ailing power train with the only other one available to John on short notice: his personal demo Sprint - the white and blue 1966 Corsa coupe. John told me they just swapped out the entire powertrain in the interest of time. That is how the Phoenix ended up with a 1966 engine and a Saginaw 4-speed.

After the original Phoenix engine was repaired the guys at the shop just put the 1965 power train back in the '66 Sprint. That is the engine that is still in the car as it sits on display at the Saratoga Auto Museum in Saratoga Springs, NY.

When John Fitch was still alive I offered to trade engines with him giving him the correct original Phoenix engine in exchange for the correct original Sprint engine. We never made the swap.

I could also tell you about the time that John offered to sell me the Phoenix for \$10,000. That was back in 1979 and ten grand was so far out of my price range that I had to say no. Talk about a missed opportunity? - Pete Koehler

Phoenix Sells!

"Thanks to the concerted efforts of Wayne Carini (Velocity's Chasing Classic Cars), journalist Don Klein, and the Fitch Family, the late John Fitch's pride and joy, the one and only Fitch Phoenix -- went to the Bonham's auction at the Greenwich Concours Sunday, June 1.

Given appropriate display space just feet from the auction stage, the Phoenix was the center of attention. After bidders went back and forth, at 2:42 p.m. the gavel came down on its sale to Mr. Charles Mallory of Greenwich, Conn.

A collector with eclectic tastes, Mr. Mallory was not there to simply add to his stable: "This was by far my most

emotional purchase," Mallory said shortly afterward. "I loved John, I love Lime Rock, I really feel the Phoenix belongs in Connecticut. I'm very happy for not just me, but everyone who understands what this is about."

The Phoenix went for \$230,000. Look for a "Chasing Classic Cars" episode covering the Phoenix and the auction this fall on the Velocity Channel

In the process of resurrecting my 1960. Am in need of a gas tank which I have learned is unique to the 1960. Thought you might know some possible leads. Any assistance would be appreciated.

Thanks, Scott McNess

nesmac7@msn.com

Bob Covell



Robert H. Covell, 82, passed away on Tuesday June 10, 2014 at Lockport Memorial Hospital. Born in Lockport January 14, 1932 to Edward and Dorothy (Pless) Covell. Robert worked for Sierra Research LTD as a Senior Contract Administrator, Aerospace division traveling all over the world. Robert was a life member of South Lockport Volunteer Fire Company where he held many offices including; President and 1st Assistant Chief. He was also past president of the SLFC Exempt Benevolent Association. Robert was a life member of Trinity Lutheran Church and served on the Board of Trustees and the Board of Elders and was an usher for many years. He was also a member of the Niagara Frontier Corvair Club, and held many offices in the club over the years. Bob was Chairman of the Town of Lockport Recreation Committee which was instrumental in the creation of the "Day Road Park." He said "This would be a nice place for a park." He was also a member of the Planning Board. Robert graduated from Lockport Senior

High School in 1950. He also attended Erie County Tech. He loved playing cards, camping, his many friends and his Corvairs. He was a beloved husband of 53 years to Ida (Crawshaw) Covell. He is survived by his three sons: Daniel (Tina) of PA., Douglas (Melanie) of NC and Michael Covell of Lockport. Predeceased by a son James Robert. He is also survived by his granddaughter, Hannah; brothers Rodney Covell, Peter (Janice) Covell and Paul (Margo) Covell; cousins, nieces, nephews and his cat Trixie. Interment will be in Cold Spring Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Trinity Lutheran Church Abiding Memorial Fund, 67 Saxton St. Lockport, NY 14094 or to a charity of your choice. The NFCC is making a donation to the Corvair Preservation Foundation in memory of Bob. He believed in the importance of CORSA to our club.



Bob holding an award at Como Park show.



Bob's 67 Monza at the NFCC display at Summit Mall



DENNIS DOROGI HAS COMPLETED THE CARL SAGAN SPYDER!



LOOK FOR THE ARTICLE IN THE JULY/AUGUST COMMUNIQUE. (IF YOU NEED A COPY CONTACT ME AND I CAN E-MAIL YOU ONE)





MOUSE STAINED ITEMS FOUND IN GLOVE BOX OF CAR, PROVING OWNERSHIP BY CARL SAGAN



MARK DOROGI STANDING INSIDE THE CARL SAGAN SPYDER, READY TO PUSH IT IN FOR RESTORATION.



ALL PHOTO ALBUMS ON THE RESTORATION CAN BE FOUND HERE:

[HTTPS://WWW.FLICKR.COM/PHOTOS/89344545@N08/SETS/](https://www.flickr.com/photos/89344545@N08/sets/)



THE COMPLETED CAR!

NOTE: I have entry forms for the Buffalo Octagon Club show in Como park, if anyone wants one I can e-mail a copy.....

