



CORSA CHAPTER 130

# CORVAIR FAN

CENTRAL NEW YORK CORVAIR CLUB  
FEBRUARY 2008



## CLUB OFFICERS

PRESIDENT - DAVE ROBINSON (315)656-9639 KB2HBA@twcny.rr.com VICE PRES – RON FAUSAK (315)776-5852  
TREASURERS - SHERRI/LEN SMITH (315) 697-7596 RECALL CHAIRMAN – DAVE ROBINSON  
SECY AND MEMBERSHIP - SHERRI/LEN SMITH (315)697-7596 CLUB EVENTS – RITA COLSON (315)689-3366  
EDITORS RITA / TIM COLSON N2VZD@AOL.COM (PLEASE SUBMIT ALL CLUB MATERIALS TO THIS ADDRESS)

## PRESIDENTS COLUMN

Our first tech-session of the year was a huge success; we started working on our display engine to take to shows. Everyone meet at Rita and Tim's nice house [some of us had a hard time finding our way].

Tim had already removed the drive train from a Lakewood; motor was an early 145cid engine. Two men removed the assembly from the engine jack and placed it on a half sheet of plywood on Tim's low lift and were raised to a good working height for our old backs. We removed transmission, torque converter and flexplate and bell housing. Doug and Len moved these parts in sandblast/parts cleaner room to start cleanup. Tim had removed all the nuts off the studs for the head; only 3 studs came out of the block. Next the heads were removed; had one jug stuck to the head but after some work we relieved the jug. Carbon build up was slight in the heads. Front mount and housing was removed for cleaning. Lew Halstead noticed some fine vertical lines in one of the jugs, first we thought a wrist pin had come loose, after pulling the jug we found all of the rings gaps were lined up Tim reset ring proper alignment and honed out most of the lines in the jug.

Tim split a block he had on another bench, as many never seen this done. He also explained what wear to look for on an old cam and lifter set he had out of another engine. Nice job Tim. A gasket set will be ordered for the re assembly project. We hope to have drive train painted and ready to run before show time. Looks like more tech sessions soon!

Ladies called everyone in for lunch; Rita made some great meatloaf and everyone else a dish to pass, nice lunch I had too much to eat.

17 showed up, Thanks.



Hi everyone!

I will try to keep a running list of the upcoming months so you can plan ahead. If you have any suggestions or ideas you would think would be fun for meetings, please be sure to call or E mail me.

Business meetings are at Barbagallo's 6344 E Molloy Rd, E. Syracuse on the first Thursday of each month. The meeting will start at 7:00 but they'll have a waitress available for us from 5:30 so we can enjoy dinner before. We will have our own room and they will give separate checks.

There will be an additional day set aside every other month to have a working tech session. If anyone has a work in progress and needs help--- please let us know ASAP. This will start in January. If you have heated space available for the guys to work in we'll be glad to hold it there or if you don't but can bring the part you're working on, we'll find someone willing to have it at their house. If you need help in any way, PLEASE LET ONE OF US KNOW. Since all this has to be printed in the Fan, please do it as soon as you can. Don't be shy--- we're here to help each other.

Feb 17<sup>th</sup>

We have reservations at Borio's at noon. They still have their Sunday buffet or you can order off the menu. We'll have a film to show and talk about after the meal. The address is 8891 McDonnell's Pkwy Lakeshore Rd, Cicero.

March 9th

March will be another month with a tech session. It was suggested that since the weather can be iffy this time of year that we combine the meeting with the tech session (also make that the event for the month) and since Easter is early this year I think that's an excellent idea. January's tech session was a great day of work and fun. Hope more of you can come. We'll have it at our house again and we'll print the directions and map again in the March Fan. I believe daylight savings starts that day so since we'll be losing an hour we'll start at 10:00 (that's in DST ) so don't forget to change your clocks! We'll do the same as before---bring a dish to pass for our feeding frenzy after the guys build up a good appetite.

April or May will be our Spring tour and so far I'm planning it to be to the Clayton boat museum. We have to do some trial runs and work out the details yet though.

If you have any ideas please let me know. Everything is always subject to change. We now will have tech sessions every other month. If there's a particular subject that would be of interest to you please let Tim or I know so we can try to run with it. This takes ADVANCE planning so PLEASE try to let us know early enough.

Rita ---- call 689-3366 or E mail [ritac44@aol.com](mailto:ritac44@aol.com) or Tim at [N2VZD@aol.com](mailto:N2VZD@aol.com)

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## hillCLIMB

# Return to Crow Mountain

by mark rothermel • photo by  
john clarke



**At Crow Mountain, the weapon of choice for Dan Giannotti was his awesome Chevy Corvair.**

When there's little room for error, there's plenty of room for excitement. The Tennessee Valley Region SCCA hosted the third annual Crow Mountain Hill Climb on September 29-30. Hill-climbing is the pinnacle of SCCA Time Trial competition, and Crow Mountain had plenty to offer.

Drivers had time for 11 runs each, an impressive number considering the time that was lost extracting cars from the woods. The challenging 1.85-mile uphill course featured a 720-foot climb, seven hairpin switchbacks, several S curves and a 0.6-mile high-speed curved section with two blind left handers. Ditches, granite rock faces and large trees left little room for error. If that weren't enough, the local deer, squirrels and groundhogs did their best to unsettle the drivers.

Forty-one racers—15 of them newcomers to the sport—competed in 21 classes and established 13 new course records. George Bowland, fresh from winning the A Modified crown at the SCCA Solo Nationals, was able to lower his overall Crow Mountain record to 104.236 seconds with the BBR Shark.

The event would not have happened without the many car clubs that volunteered to work the event, including the Rocket City Rock Crawlers, North Alabama British Motoring Society, Rocket City Miata Club, Rocket City Mustang Club, Twickenham Auto Club, and several SCCA regions. Find out more at [crowmountainhillclimb.org](http://crowmountainhillclimb.org).

Interesting submission by member Ric Rivette  
for you moving event guys

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 by President Dave Robinson. The minutes of the last meeting were approved. The Treasurer's report was accepted.

Old Business--Recall.. On Thursday evening there will be a cruise-in. Friday there will be a tour to Norwich for the men and a shopping tour to Skaneateles for the ladies. There will also be a Baldwinsville cruise with snacks later on Friday. Saturday morning, the concours will take place and the autocross on Saturday afternoon. Lew will check to see who owns the parking lot at the Microtel.

We would appreciate it if everyone would please work on getting door prizes this year. The question was asked if Gert is going to donate an afghan this year.

Our website is up and running. We need someone to care for it and put up new material.

Central New York Car Club Coalition dues are due.

On January 20, at Tim and Rita's, the men will be working on the display engine for the club.

New Business--We should try to set some goals for the new year. We should also help Tim and Rita plan some trips and/or come up with places for us to visit.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45.

Respectfully Submitted  
Sherry Smith  
Secretary



### Special Event

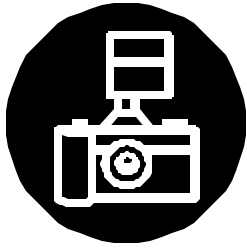
Sunday, March 9th at 10AM DAYLIGHT SAVINGS  
TIME!!!!

Our second real tech session will be more work on our display engine, and other items of interest to the Corvair guys.

SEE YOU

At Tim and Rita's, 1396 Daboll Rd, Memphis. We'll have coffee and donuts, juices, etc for the morning. Come anytime after 10 am and later in the afternoon we'll have one of our fantastic pot luck dinners. Bring a dish to pass, I'll have drinks here. Directions and a map are in this Fan. Our Tel # is 689-3366





Kevin's latest project : Corvair powered custom buggy



The pictures below are courtesy of Lou Halstead. The snow picture was his wild ride to our tech session...where we had very little or no snow!

Amazing what 10 miles will do for weather around the lake areas! The pipe thawer is Lou's latest strange acquisition.. neat stuff!!

Now to restore it!

Note that the generator is capable of @800 AMPS!



## Kitchen Corner

By Rita

### Rigatoni Mixed Pot

- 1 lb ground beef
- 1 lb Italian sausage, cut in 3" pieces
- 4 bone in chicken breasts
- 2 (28 oz) jars spaghetti sauce
- 1 lb rigatoni, cooked and drained

Brown and drain the beef and sausage. Add the chicken and sauce. Bring to a boil, reduce heat, cover and simmer 1 ½ hrs. Serve over rigatoni.

### Peanut Butter & Jelly Pie

- 1 (8 oz) pkg cream cheese, softened
- 1/3 c peanut butter
- ½ c confectioner's sugar
- 1 Tbl milk
- 1 graham cracker crust
- ½ c strawberry preserves
- 2 c cool whip

Combine cream cheese and peanut butter. Add and mix in the confectioner's sugar and milk. Spoon into the graham crust. Spread preserves over top and then top with cool whip.



#### TIM'S NOTES

WOW! I am in "information overload" this month. We had an excellent start on our engine project. It will, of course, be more work than originally planned. We need to figure out an order of parts needed (mostly gaskets and seals) to send off soon to Clark's. Way back last winter, when that car was in my cellar, I started to take the motor apart to change the heads to 102 with chokes from the 80hp. So, in the process I removed the blower housing, (which had a noisy bearing) and the generator mount, figuring on converting to alternator and late bearing housing. Well dumb me either lost or tossed those parts...(tossing corvair parts for me, is to drop them at Ron's). I do this a lot now, because I have way too much "stuff" around here.. (as most noticed when at the meeting). So I would like to put a generator back on the display engine, and we will have to purchase a new bearing, along with gaskets and seals. I plan on a tech session involving the differential redo (complete tear down, with new seals inside, check bearings etc). The trick is now ..do I wait to do it for a meeting, call a special evening session? (not good for me because I am used to retiring EARLY)..or maybe enough guys that care are available during the day during the week? Meanwhile back in my shop, I am poking away at cleaning parts, thinking of what we need to buy. I have a volunteer, to help me during the day at times with chores like lifting etc. I plan on a visit soon to the car wash, with the block assembly. That tranny was the gooiest mess I ever had to work with. It is starting to look better now. The differential is clean and ready for tear down. The cylinder is cleaned up and back on. I will be putting the heads back together soon. We can cut a few corners on some things, because this engine will not see hard duty. I do NOT want to split it, because I know it had / has good oil pressure and no noises. If you price crank work, and bearings, you might understand. Same story with the transmission, just clean it up and paint it. The differential should have that seal inside replaced because if it fails tranny fluid WILL go thru the differential and make a mess. We also touched on body work by taking an FC door apart for Phil Domser. I hope someone will step up soon and make us some display boards to use with this unit. The trailer is next. I have a frame here which I guess I no longer need, or we can get other options at reasonable costs. We will have to discuss this. I hope this project generates enough interest to get you to a meeting and discuss our options. This display should end up like a rolling educational display of the corvair powertrain. I have wanted to do something like this for many years.

On another **important** subject, CORSA has put out a questionnaire as a member survey. It was mentioned, that they would like it to get to non CORSA members also. The national organization is a VERY important part of our hobby, adding to the value of our cars, providing valuable information, and parts sources. The publication alone is worth more than it costs to belong. This club, along with others like ours, is feeling the pain of the economy. Please fill out the questionnaire, and get it to them asap. This CORSA board *seems* to want to go forward with things. We must do our part to help them see what most people want and expect from them. If you need a copy of the questionnaire, ask me, I can print one or email it to you. I will also share with you MY personal views on who to send it to...

Another subject: I also am a life member of VCCA, Vintage Chevrolet Club of America. I joined when my previous partner got involved with a project car. Over the years I have watched them get more Corvair people involved. Now they respect the Corvair much more, as it ages along with all the other Chevy's. Anyhow the subject of corvair chapters has come up. If interested, (whew more to do!!!) get with them.

Sorry, I am WAY too busy to do much more!!! Hint, hint!!

And another subject to watch is the project Kevin has taken on!. It should capture a lot of attention when it gets going!. Ask him how he is doing on it, at the next meeting.

Any other neat stuff going on out there?

We took a ride to the Norwich Auto Museum Sunday, and had a great time. Rita purchased some more great programs for us to share soon.

The RECALL gang is hard at it again. They have lots of challenges this year, but will make it a super show. There are some new ideas being worked on. If you can help, see Nick soon!! Also they are looking for door prize donations...can YOU help?

I think that's it for this month, I better get back to parts cleaning...

#### *WANTED: Corvair Owners*

The VCCA offers its members Non-Geographical Regions. What does this mean? It encourages members with similar interests to form a region no matter where they live. With this in mind, I am calling all Corvair owners if they are interested in forming a region. It would be a benefit to all of us to know our fellow Corvair owners. Please contact me if you are interested in forming a Corvair region.

Dave Cavagnaro, 11 Heller Hill Road, Blirstown, NJ 07825-2320  
Phone (908) 362-5775 • Email [djcav@ptd.net](mailto:djcav@ptd.net)

PLEASE RESPOND NOW!!

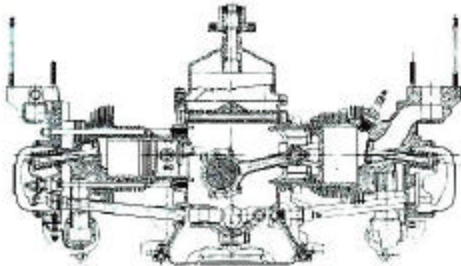


This photo taken at Pope Chevrolet Auto Dealer in 1960 which was on Tremont Avenue west of Westchester Square. Notice all the salesmen gathered outside to inspect a brand new 1960 Chevy that just arrived. The showroom window lets the public have a look at all the other models of Chevrolets that are available to all the increasing number of Bronxites who want to own a car. Photo courtesy of The Bronx County Historical Society.

WE WISH TO THANK ALL THE SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS OF OUR CLUB AND THE RECALL. WITHOUT THE HELP THEY PROVIDE WE COULD NOT DO IT , PLUS THE WORDS" CORVAIR PARTS AND SERVICES" WOULD BE HISTORY..

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Len Smith  
3881 Clockville Road  
Canastota, NY 13032



### Corvair Fans

Come and join the Central New York Corvair Club. We are a fun group! We have an outing every month and a business meeting once a month. We have tech sessions every once in a while. We would like new members and new ideas. We are a very social group and wives are always invited. For more information please call Sherry or Lenny Smith at 315-697-7596. We hope to see you at the next meeting.



CENTRAL NY CORVAIR CLUB INC  
PO BOX 616  
JAMESVILLE, NY 13078



### Directions to Colson's

1396 Daboll Rd, Memphis tel# 689-3366

From Exit 39 of the thruway; once off the exit go EAST on Rt 690 and keep to the right. Get off at the Jones Rd exit and turn left on Jones Rd. Go .3 miles to a traffic light and go straight through this--- it will now change names to Brickyard Rd at this intersection. Continue straight 3 miles. This will be a "T" intersection at Rt 173. Turn right and go 2.5 miles to next blinking red light (this is Rt 31 and Rt 173). Go through this light and take a right kitty corner road named Elderberry. Turn right at the end of this and then the first left (within eyesight at the top of the knoll). This is Daboll. You'll come to a stop sign at Kingdom Rd. Go straight and we're the 3<sup>rd</sup> house on the left (total of 1.1 miles on Daboll Rd)

