

# ACORNews

ACORNS - Association of CORvair NutS

Rochester NY - Corsa Chapter 148

April 2018 Newsletter

PRES SAYS...

Greetings ACORNS,

Well, spring has finally arrived, at least that's what the calendar tells us. Still not warm enough or clean enough to drive Corvairs. I figure 2 more weeks.

The news on my end is that I will be purchasing, for the second time, the Ellis / Abel / Pulhamus tan 64 700 sedan. After much serious thought, I've decided that rebodging my rusted white 65 Monza coupe with the Zimmermann blue 65 coupe will involve more time and effort than I can commit to. My work and musical schedule doesn't leave much time for a major project. I don't mind fixing what my cars need, but no time for major projects. So, I sold the white 65 and am looking to sell the blue 65 shell. It has a good 110 and 4speed trans. If anyone is interested, let me know.

Don't forget our April tech session at The Rush Rod & Piston club. There are no specific projects scheduled, so if you have something that needs work and we can do it in an afternoon, feel free to show up. Or, just show up to lend moral support and watch the action.

All for now,  
Paul.

2018  
CORSA International Convention

July 23rd through July 28th

Pittsburgh, PA

see [www.corvairpittsburgh.com](http://www.corvairpittsburgh.com) for details

## March 10, 2018 Peppermint's Restaurant ACORN Meeting Notes

ACORNers attending:

Paul Abel  
Bill Boudway  
Dick Powers  
Brandon Carmo  
Dave Ellis  
Dave Shoemaker  
Ron Butera  
Dave Shaffer  
Jim Bartasevich

No Corvairs attended. (It's still winter!)

We met at Peppermint's and had a good time talking Corvairs. There was no show-and-tell like last year when Bill Boudway brought a rebuilt carburetor to the brunch. He did, however, bring a brochure for a Boyce MotoMeter display at the Ontario County Historical Society Museum at 55 North Main St., in Canandaigua: [www.ochs.org](http://www.ochs.org)

MotoMeters are thermometers that replaced the radiator cap on your car so you could see the temperature of the engine from the passenger compartment, provided you had good eyesight and it was daylight. Over a thousand [!] are on display and owned by one person, Mr. Francis Clax. You can get more information about MotoMeters at: [www.motometercentral.com](http://www.motometercentral.com)

His collection will be at the museum until September 8, 2018. See the brochure in this issue.

### MEETING MINUTES

#### Old Business

None. We didn't have a business meeting.

#### New Business

None. We didn't have a business meeting.

### Coug-Vair Custom Convertible...

Jean Marc Urbain found this custom corvair convertible on the Buffalo craigslist page. Jim Bartasevitch made note of the Mercury Cougar taillights. Dave Ellis noted the engineering challenge in creating a 4 door convertible. That's a lot of open cabin for someone looking for a different take on the Corvair. Not for the purist...





### Motometers

Motometer collector and automotive industry historian Francis Clax has been collecting automobiles and motorcycles since the early 1970s.

Currently, he is devoted to preserving early automobile instruments and related artifacts, specifically the early radiator-mounted engine temperature indicators most commonly known as Motometers.

The CLAX Motometer Collection represents the most historically significant and comprehensive one ever assembled within this niche, without exception.

The Collection includes numerous examples of the earliest ones ever made and a wide range of other rare and unique types.

Few collections of this type have ever been assembled, let alone put on public display.

This Collection, in whole or part, is available to automotive museums and learning institutions to increase public participation in the preservation of automotive industry history.

Contact Francis Clax for more information or to schedule an exhibition.

Be Sure to Visit MotometerCentral™ at:

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

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Ontario County Historical Society  
Museum  
55 North Main Street  
Canandaigua, NY 14424  
A 501(C)3 Charity  
Visit Us at: [www.ochs.org](http://www.ochs.org)

## MOTOMETERS: EARLY AUTOMOBILE TEMPERATURE INDICATORS

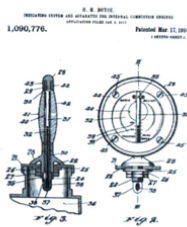
A 100 Year History and Legacy  
Exhibition

ONTARIO COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM

55 North Main Street  
Canandaigua, NY 14424

[www.ochs.org](http://www.ochs.org)

February 2nd - September 8th, 2018



## MOTOMETERS: EARLY AUTOMOBILE TEMPERATURE INDICATORS

### Motometers

Early (1920s) internal combustion engine powered automobiles made use of Motometers, or internal-combustion engine temperature indicating system and apparatus instruments as they were originally referred to by their inventor, Harrison H. Boyce.

Mr. Boyce, already a known and respected automobile accessory inventor, had observed internal-combustion engine powered automobiles routinely falling prey to the destructive nature of engine failure due to overheating.

Mr. Boyce believed that this problem was preventable if the motor vehicle operator had an early warning system that could monitor, detect and forewarn of impending engine damaging heat build-up. Thus in 1912 he began the process of getting portions of his Motometer product patented.

The history and factual story of the Motometer in specific and in general is fascinating, diverse and is a significant facet of early automobile racing heritage.

The Motometer is with us today in the form of digital temperature gauges and check engine trouble warning light indicators.

They have been standard equipment in certain automobiles since 1915.

### Motometers

During the 1920s in the United States, alone, there were more than 250 independent automobile manufacturers.

Individualized logo-ed Motometer dial plates were created to represent the automobile manufacturers' brands. This marketing program began as early as 1915. Two types of custom dial plates could be obtained, an emblem (like the one used on the auto's radiator badge) or a written script form (used on the earliest auto manufacturers' radiators). These two types are the most favored by Motometer collectors.

Eventually individual owners, auto dealerships, salesmen, professional associations and social organizations could replace their standard issue Motometer dials with ones that had an automobile specific logo on them or their names.

For the Motometer Company, this dramatically increased sales to 10 million units sold by 1926. This meant that nearly every car in America had a BOYCE MOTO-METER on it.

By the 1930s automobile technology and engine design was changing making radiator-mounted Motometers obsolete.

The wholesale change in automobile and engine design contributed to the removal or disposing of millions of Motometers, resulting in far fewer surviving examples these days.

### Motometers

During the 1920s, the BOYCE MOTO-METER, manufactured by the Motometer Company of Long Island City, New York really captured the attention of the automotive industry and public-at-large. It became a *must have* product sensation!

Despite the overwhelming and inarguable dominance of the BOYCE MOTO-METER in the marketplace, the ingenious device did have numerous, less known and less successful competitors.

Many different types competed for motometer market success, only one Brand truly succeeded.

The CLAX Motometer Collection represents the finest and most comprehensive ever assembled and contains numerous authentic original documents, manuals, receipts, Ads, manuals, catalogs, original accessories and other rare artifacts, most in like new, original factory correct working condition.

This Collection goes further, as it is a visual, factual representation of this niche industry's history from beginning to end.

Updated technology relegated these fine ornamental instruments to niche automobilia collectibles for the savvy collector.

## **ACORNS Treasurers Report**

**as of 3/28/18, submitted by Dave Ellis via email**

Current Acorn Balance is \$407.70

The following folks need to contact me ASAP or they will be deleted from membership, per Constitution and By-laws...and no longer receive the newsletter....starting in May....

Folks outstanding on 2018 Dues are as follows.....

Jeff Clark  
Dan Celso  
Dick Gilbert  
Jack Greco  
Fred Marsh  
Joe Meyers  
Jim Mruk

I am anticipating a potential new membership from the fellow who purchased Paul Abel's 65 Monza coupe...

### **Paul Abel was contacted by Hemmings and passed this along...**

As a fellow Corvair enthusiast, this summer I will begin photographing select Corvairs for my forthcoming book, *Corvair Style*; the book is scheduled to be published Summer of 2019. I'm reaching out to you for assistance in finding Corvairs to feature in the book. I'm seeking the following types of Corvairs: original-owner cars; one-family-owned cars; unrestored originals with factory-applied paint; rare models; and cars that have been restored to concours condition. All cars must be authentic looking without being visually modified or customized, although mechanical upgrades are acceptable.

If you know of any club members who own any of the above-mentioned Corvairs, I would appreciate knowing who those members are and obtaining their contact information. Or, if you prefer, they can contact me directly at my personal email address: [aurelia528@yahoo.com](mailto:aurelia528@yahoo.com)  
Any leads that you could provide will be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Richard Lentinello  
Executive Editor  
Hemmings Motor News

From the editor...

I'm excited to have the opportunity to work on the ACORNews! I am looking for tech article suggestions, as well as listings for parts or cars for sale. I am also interested in photos of member cars, ACORN outings, or photos and descriptions of any project car updates or new acquisitions you may want to share.

Submissions can be sent to [bwcarmo@gmail.com](mailto:bwcarmo@gmail.com)

Thanks,  
Brandon Carmo

## 2018 ACORN EVENT CALENDAR

**April 21, 10 AM:** Tech Session at George Conboy's Rush Rod & Piston Club. What do you need done to your Corvair? Plan ahead to get the parts you need to let us know what we'll be doing. You can work on your own car or take advantage of the chapter's tech knowledge. The RR & PC has lifts and large air compressors. Coffee & donuts will be provided.

**May 12:** Tech Session to evaluate and offer suggestions for the Lisa Wasson and Dean LoBrutto Greenbrier located in Leicester. We'll probably meet somewhere for breakfast first. Details will appear in future issues of the ACORNews.

**June 8 - 10:** Recall hosted by Central NY Corvair Club. We've caravanned over in the past, so keep that in mind. [cnycorvair.com](http://cnycorvair.com); Dave 315-656-9639, [kb2hba@twcny.rr.com](mailto:kb2hba@twcny.rr.com)

**June 16, 9 AM:** Tech Session RR & PC; What do you need done? Get your Corvair ready for the trip to Pittsburgh?

**July 4 [Wednesday]:** Canandaigua July 4th Parade?

**July 13-15:** National Warplane Museum air show, Geneseo; includes a classic car display which allows close-up parking;

<https://nwmairshow.com/> [Not an official ACORN event unless we make it one.]

**July 15, 9 AM - 4 PM:** MG Car Club Sports Car Festival; Elks Club, Webster

**July 23-28:** CORSA International Convention, Pittsburgh;

<http://corvairpittsburgh.com/>

**August 12:** Summer Picnic & Auction so bring "stuff" [car and non-car] you want to donate to the auction to benefit our chapter. For new members, this is a great opportunity to, uh, "unload" stuff you don't want or need anymore, car and non-car. Details in a future issue of the ACORNews. This is a fun event: People, food, and Corvairs; does it get any better?

**September 16:** Corvairs On the Hills, hosted by Fred and Sue Marsh. Details will be in a future issue. If you've never visited Fred and Sue, you'll be in for a treat! They have a very eclectic collection, not only of Corvairs but other vehicles, everything from a DeLorean to a '58 Ford retractable convertible and relics in the woods.

**October 14:** Fall Tour?

**November 11 [Sunday]:** Holiday Dinner; TBA; any suggestions?

There were some suggestions for a tour to the Pierce-Arrow Museum in Buffalo which could be scheduled any time.

## ACORN OFFICERS

President: Paul Abel \_\_\_\_\_ abelbrass@gmail.com

Vice President: Steve Smith \_\_\_\_\_ mscnewark@windstream.net

Secretary: Jim Bartasevitch \_\_\_\_\_ corvair@frontiernet.net

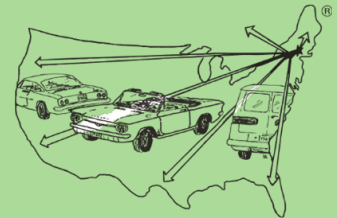
Treasurer: Dave Ellis \_\_\_\_\_ dellis1@rochester.rr.com

## Clark's Corvair Parts®

Our catalog lists over 15,000 parts for your Corvair. We carry engine parts, body panels, upholstery and much more! There are 1,000's of reproduced items available, pages of technical information and lots of other helpful hints.

Check us out at [www.corvair.com](http://www.corvair.com) or call today to order a copy of our printed catalog. You will quickly see why we are the world's largest supplier of parts and all your other Corvair needs. Clark's - More than Parts!

Clark's Corvair Parts® 400 Mohawk Trail, Shelburne Falls, MA 01370  
(413)625-9776 [www.corvair.com](http://www.corvair.com) email: [clarks@corvair.com](mailto:clarks@corvair.com)



## WANTED TO BUY

\* Looking to buy an Early Model Bench Seat AND a Late Model Rear Seat Bottom, any condition, as well as a late model front (67) belly pan, contact Brandon Carmo, if available, [bwcarmo@gmail.com](mailto:bwcarmo@gmail.com)

## PARTS SALES POLICY

We all know that there are Corvairs "out there" that are owned by people who do not belong to CORSA or ACORN. It was agreed and voted on to make our parts supply available only to our members.

Here are the specifics:

If a non-member contacts us for parts, we'll politely explain our policy and ask if he or she would like to become a member.

NOS parts will be sold at a 50% discount from Clark's prices.

Used parts will be sold cheaply!

# FOR SALE

- **New items to the ACORN STASH:**

**Corvair Parts now owned by ACORN that are available to the ACORN Membership**

(Source is the Andolino stash that was purchased by the club  
to make them available to the membership)

**Stash is currently at Dave Ellis home, 1460 Long Pond**

**Call Me at 227-2439 or email at [dellis1@rochester.rr.com](mailto:dellis1@rochester.rr.com)**

Item Description	Number Available	Members Price Per item
Dale Mfg Rebuilt 110 HP Distrib	1	\$60
HD Universal Joints, C3463	4	\$6
SII,OEM Style,Volt.Regul.,C860C	1	\$50
SII, SolidState Style, Volt. Regul., C2264	1	\$10
SI, OEM, Delco, Throwout Brng., C1141	1	\$25
'66-'69. Saginaw, Delco, NOS, Reverse Switch	1	\$62
NOS,SII, FRONT,TS,Orange Lenses, CX1396	2	\$8
'63, Rear,TL Lens, NOS, C220RG	2	\$15
'63, Rear,TL Lens, Like New, Used	2	\$5
SII, Rear TL, Chrome Rings, almost perfect	15	\$3
SII, 66?, HL Bezels, almost perfect, L & R	1 pair	\$25
Shop Manuals, Corvair Specialty Books	8	\$5
SI , dual pot, Air Cleaner system,Restored	1	\$20

- **Offenhauser aluminum valve covers.**

◦ Contact Paul Abel [abelbrass@gmail.com](mailto:abelbrass@gmail.com)

## From the Bartasevich Collection

**Wheel covers NOS:** 1 - '62-'63 hubcap; 1 - '63 wheel cover; 2 - '61 wheel covers

**Wheel covers & hubcaps, used:** 4 - '60-'61 hubcaps; 4 - '61 wheel covers; 4 - '64 hubcaps; 5 - '65 wheel covers; a number of '66-'69 wheel covers; all are in decent shape but not concours quality

**Headlight bezels:** a number of ones for '60 cars and FC; a number of ones for '61 through '69; all are in decent shape but not concours quality

**FC rear axles and brake backing plates:** 2, need to be thoroughly cleaned and bearings replaced

## From the Bartasevich Collection (cont.)

**Torque converter:** 1

**Engine block:** TO408XXZ, block and studs only, '60-63. The "XXZ" means it was a replacement and not initially installed in a car or FC. It has the knockout plug in the block for the wagon or FC dipstick/oil fill tube.

**Engine block:** TO308ZH, Block with crank, cam, oil pan, 3 pistons & cylinders; '60-63 car

**Flywheel & pressure plate:** '60-63

**Vent window assy:** 2 for early convertible

**"Grille bars":** 2 - '60; not in great shape

**Interior door handles, window cranks:** various

**Can of a variety of screws, bolts, etc.**

Probably some other small parts [I didn't itemize *everything!*]

### ● 1962 SPYDER COUPE

- **Black with red interior, 4-speed, new tires. Car is in very good condition. Motor has no oil leaks, all extra parts and car cover go with car.**
- **Asking \$8500.**
- **Special price for first time buyer.**
- **Dave Shoemaker, Canandaigua, NY 14424**
- **585-393-1912, cell 585-773-0168**





- **1962 Corvair 700**
  - **54k miles**
  - **Rebuilt engine**
  - **Lots of extras- 4 sets of hubs and new side mirrors**
  - **Was going to ask 6k**
  - **Let me know what u think**
  - **Thanks - Roger Broeker, located in Grand Island**
  - **716-308-2675**



### **From the Pulhamus Collection**

Too many toys and must sell a few. One of the Corvairs has to go!

- 1966 Corsa Coupe, 4 speed, 140 Hp. Very good shape. \$6,000.
- 1964 700 4 door. 4 speed. Rebuilt engine and almost everything else (by Dave Ellis). A fun driving car! \$2,800.
- 1966 Corsa Convertible. 140 Hp, 4 speed. Needs TLC. \$1,000.

Contact Dave Pulhamus at 585-352-0149 or [dmpul80@gmail.com](mailto:dmpul80@gmail.com)