

# niagara frontier



VOLUME 49, NUMBER 6

June 2021

Formed By And For Those Who Still Appreciate The CORVAIR Automobile



I was at the Crittenden Vol. Fire Co. Car show and ran across this 69 Corvair, Well at least it once was a 69 Corvair. I don't know if anyone remembers a member from about 15 -17 years ago, Brian Maclaughlin, In any event, he was working on a Corvair Trike utilizing a coffin. Brian had been working on this for many years, fabricating a frame to accommodate the complete Corvair rear suspension. I think it came out really nice! He has had it done for awhile now. Keep an eye out for it at shows and cruises.

## MEMBERSHIP DUES

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

Dick Dahmer 53 Melberry Trail, Orchard Park, NY 14127 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 \_\_\_\_\_

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: NIAGARA FRONTIER CORVAIR CLUB

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

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

#### A Chartered Chapter of the Corvaire 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	Dick Dahmer	(716) 480-7713
Membership	Joe Grifasi	(716) 688-6041

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### NFCC Events and more!

## NFCC MEETING SCHEDULE

Until further notice, all NFCC activities and meetings are on hold due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. We will let you know how things progress on this. Currently "group" meetings are limited, and we really have no good location available, and not much going on to talk about. Currently, it is more important for everyone to stay safe and maintain social distancing. We are looking on keeping the zoom meetings, and schedule a few get togethers at cruises.

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**NFCC Meeting June 14<sup>th</sup> at Ida Fritz Park in Lockport at the Monday Cruise Night. Cruise starts at 5:00 PM meeting at 7:00 PM**

**Lets see how many Corvairs we can get there!  
If rained out, hopefully we can reschedule for a different Cruise. Possibly Widewaters in Lockport on Thursday?**

**Wanted: '64 rear car suspension for a 4 speed**  
[The crossmember has a notch/indentation to clear the end of the transmission.] I don't need the leaf spring or coil springs, but if it comes with them, that's okay. Some rust is expected and is okay, but I don't want one that's crusty, and everything is rusted into one piece. Please contact Jim Bartasevich, [corvaire@frontiernet.net](mailto:corvaire@frontiernet.net)

See Show and Cruise news for updated shows!  
<https://www.showandcruiseneews.com/>





Here you can see Brian used the automatic shifter on his Corvair Trike.



Even has the parking brake from the Corvair used.



Those are 2 throttle bodies for fuel injection on the Corvair motor. Mounted inboard.



Storage, and electronics for the Fuel Injection\



Time to replace the rear mat in my 63 Greenbrier. This one is original, and Clark's sells a repro.



Yeah, this one has seen better days.



Lucky the underlay is still in good shape/



Much better!





With all my Hamilton Skotch picnic supplies in place, Couple hours in the sun, and it will lay perfectly flat.....Gary

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Corvair Technical Guide Volume 4 features 221 technical articles published in the CORSA Communique magazine from 2008 through 2018.

Topics range from Accessories to Tools and just about everything in between.

Volume 4 expands on the contents of Volumes 1 through 3 and is published on 8.5 x 11-inch paper, hole-punched for a three-ring binder.

To purchase, visit [www.corvair.org](http://www.corvair.org) and click on the Merchandise & Classified Ad button on the left, and then on the Other Merchandise button. \$25 shipped.

And coming soon! Volumes 1, 2, 3 & 4 all combined on a single USB data stick!



Pat Murphy managed to bring 2 1/2 Corvairs to a recent Wurlitzer Cruise



Not Corvair related. But pretty cool anyway. A locally built car with an interesting story. Top picture is original, bottom picture is during the restoration. But what do I spy in the lower picture?



Then & Now: Top image is the extremely rare 1 of 1 prototype of the Charles Thomas Rocket Car in Batavia, NY—slide taken in 1942 by Walter W. Whyman. Bottom image is the same car today—in the middle of being restored at Old World Collision in Batavia. Mr. Whitman’s grandson, Ken Ralyea, was kind enough to share the photo yesterday when I posted about this icon. The car was designed and built in 1938 here in Batavia—more or less disappeared decades later only to be unearthed in a Lockport, NY barn. Dick McClurg, noted car enthusiast and owner of the collision shop here, has been busy restoring the frame. He will now turn his focus to the mechanics and interior. Charles D. Thomas had approached the “Big Three” auto manufacturers in Detroit when he designed this—was turned away. Many felt Thomas was about a decade ahead of his time. This is the ONLY car like this in existence, anywhere.



The Thomas Rocket Car as pulled from storage



Charles Thomas who built the Rocket Car, was also involved in the Buffalo built Playboy Automobile.



Made a bit more forward progress. Installed a intake path for fresh air, like the later coaches. Added a door inside to separate storage in rear, still have to add latch and finish outer door grill. Also put the engine/Trans back in. Tom Koprevich



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John Dawley would like to schedule a cruise to the National Warplane Museum in Geneseo during their air show.

<https://nationalwarplanemuseum.com/%3Cbr>

We did this a few years ago and it was great. Last time if you drove your classic car, admission was free. Lots to see and do at this, and plenty of food available.

The dates are June 10-11, I am hoping on Sunday myself, but please contact John if you are interested so a meeting place can be set up.

Contact John

[jtd439@roadrunner.com](mailto:jtd439@roadrunner.com)

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**On July 20<sup>th</sup> is Adrian's Custard and Beef Super Cruise on Grand Island. I would like to recommend that for our July Meeting Please contact our officers with any thoughts on this.**