

NIAGARA FRONTIER CORVAIR CLUB 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY 1973-1993

# Vair-iations

NEWSLETTER OF THE NIAGARA FRONTIER CORVAIR CLUB

VOLUME 20, NUMBER 4

APRIL, 1993

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## TOUR OF SAGINAW GEAR & AXLE PLANT

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It was a snowy evening on March 10, when eight Chapter members and two guests gathered at Bob Kurneta's house for the pre-tour assemblage. A little snow and slippery roads won't keep NFCC members away. We got a chance to check out Bob's beer can collection and some of his model car projects, prior to departing to the Plant.

We arrived at the GM Saginaw Gear & Axle Plant, and immediately hit the only "snafu" of the evening. Apparently the Plant Guards didn't receive their communication that we were going to be there, and were reluctant to let us pass. After a couple of phone calls and some conversation, Bob Kurneta, our host and tour guide, got everything straightened out.

Once inside, Bob gave us the grand tour. This plant, which makes the rear axle/differential assemblies and front end linkages for a substantial portion of the GM rear-drive vehicles, is of a magnitude that must be seen to be believed. Of particular note is the fact that this plant is the only one that produces rear axle assemblies for the newly redesigned Camaro and Firebird. This all-new assembly area diverges from the traditional "assembly line", and utilizes the "team concept" to produce axle assemblies.

We were shown all phases of component production, finishing, assembly and inventory control for this huge facility. We even had an opportunity to peek inside a working annealing oven. All in all, a fascinating experience. There isn't enough space in this column to list everything we saw and learned on the tour.

Afterwards, we held a brief Chapter meeting in one of the conference rooms, complete with snacks and soft drinks supplied by Bob. All who attended this tour had a most enjoyable evening, and would like to thank Bob Kurneta for taking the time to arrange for this unique opportunity.

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HOT AIR FROM THE PRESIDENT

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Just a brief reminder that our April meeting will be our last indoor session for a while. Starting in May, we will hit the "cruise night" circuit, and meet at various locations around Western New York, along with our Corvairs (Drive 'em if you have 'em!), and other car enthusiasts.

Our May meeting is scheduled to be at the McKinley Sports Page Spring Car Show in Hamburg, just south of the McKinley Mall. I was hoping to publish the date in this issue, but so far, that information has not been available. Calling the McKinley Inn didn't help; they couldn't tell me the show date, either. We should have the exact date at the April meeting.

Don't forget our Spring road trip and tour of the Tired Iron Museum on Sunday, May 23. We will finalize the details at the April meeting.

Also in May is the Corvair Heartbeat in Columbus, Ohio, sponsored by the Mid Ohio Vair Force, on May 28, 29, and 30. Not sure if anyone from our chapter is planning to attend, but those among us of the International persuasion have noted that the Scout Nationals are being held the same weekend in nearby Springfield. HMMMMM.

The jacket patches are in. Those who would like their very own NFCC patch, pick 'em up at the April meeting. They are priced to sell.

At a previous meeting we decided to send a copy of our newsletter to the Lake Erie Corvair Association in Erie, Pa., with the hope of exchanging newsletters, as we do with several other Corsa chapters. A short time later I received a very nice reply from Al Reidel, club president. He is very interested in receiving our publication, but at the present time their club does not have a chapter newsletter to exchange. We can discuss this at our April meeting, but I propose we continue to send our newsletter to our fellow chapter, just down the I-90 a few miles.

It is noteworthy that Al Reidel has previously attended some of our past events at Grand Island and Ellicottville, since we were talking about reviving our annual event, just a couple of meetings ago. Maybe we can put together a multi-chapter event of some sort in the not-too-distant future.

That's about it for now. Spring has finally arrived in Western New York, and I have to start getting the Corvairs out of storage. Maybe this will be the year I will, at long last, get around to putting the engine back in the ol' Corsa. Time will tell.

See you at the next meeting!  
Dick Dahmer

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## NEXT MEETING

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The next meeting of the Niagara Frontier Corvair Club will be on Wednesday, April 14, at the Clarence Public Library on Mian Street in Clarence, next to the High School.

We think the May meeting will be at the Car Show at the McKinley Sports Page, but we haven't figured out when (or if) it is being held. More about that later.

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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April 14 - NFCC membership meeting, at Clarence Public Library .

May ? - NFCC meeting at Car Show at McKinley Sports Page (we hope)

May 23 - NFCC Road Trip/tour of Tired Iron Museum, Cuylerville, NY

May 28-30 - Corvair Heartbeat '93, Mid-Ohio Vair Force, Columbus, OH.

July 3? - Classic Chevy Show, at Tonawanda Engine Plant .

August 3-8 - CORSA International Convention, San Jose, California .

September 5 - NFCC Corvair entry in Autumn Sports Classic, Como Park .

Sept. 9-12 - WNYGSEA Gas & Steam Show, Alexander. NFCC in car show Sun.

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## IMPORTANT!!! - MEMBERSHIP DUES EXPIRATIONS

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IF YOUR NAME IS ON THE FOLLOWING LIST, THIS WILL BE YOUR LAST NEWSLETTER. The following memberships have expired, and your name will be dropped from the Club roster if you don't renew. We have been "carrying" some of you for quite a while, and we hope you will feel sorry for us for having to spend all that money on postage and send in your check for renewal right away. The amount shown will pay you up until July 1, 1993, when we all go on the same fiscal calendar for membership renewals. If you want to be a real swell guy and pay up through June 30, 1994, just add ten bucks to the amount shown.

Name	Due Date	Renewal \$ to 7/1/93
Jeff Birkmeyer	1/93	\$5.00
Eric Kieffer	5/92	11.70
Patrick Murphy	12/92	5.90
R. Nunweiler	4/93	2.50
Daniel Stanz	8/92	9.20
Alan Stocker	5/92	11.70



## '62 CORVAIR MONZA

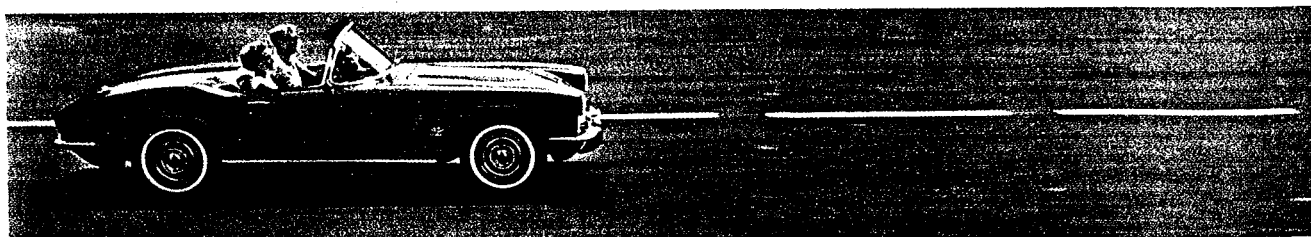
### GOES AROUND PRETENDING IT HAS POWER STEERING

We'd like to see the look of pleased surprise on your face the first time you park a '62 Corvair. Easy is the wrong word for it, because it's more than that; it's a pleasure. It's hard to pinpoint the reason, but there's a feeling of fun connected with the simple act of steering a Corvair. You wouldn't guess that you could get all this effortless ease without power steering. You also get the crisp control and superb response of a *real* road car, due to all the sports car ideas that went into the Corvair design. Four-wheel independent suspension and the rear-mounted air-cooled engine make this one of the nicest cars anybody ever transported a family in. And, what's more, you get all this pleasure and practicality at a remarkably low price. It's a real sugar-coated way to save money, and you needn't give up even a nickel's worth of luxury.

*A New World of Worth*

Chevrolet • Chevy II • Corvair • Corvette

**CHEVROLET**



**'62 CORVETTE . . . MAKES GOING BETTER THAN GETTING THERE.** The Corvette proves that you can have a full measure of sports car pleasure without discomfort or inconvenience. And 1962 is a good year to try one. . . . Chevrolet Division of General Motors, Detroit 2, Michigan.

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NEW MEMBER

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Welcome to our newest member, Herbert L. Sedita, 164 Renwood Avenue, Kenmore, NY 14217. The note with Herb's application indicates that he has owned many Corvairs over the years, and presently has a 1963 and 1967 convertible, plus a '68 parts car. We hope to see him at our future meetings and events, and we look forward to getting acquainted.

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CLASSIFIEDS

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For Sale: Engine, 110 hp, out of 1966 car. Two doors, 1 trunk, 1 hood, steering box, 2 boxes of parts. Tom. ph. 283-2917.

Wanted: 1967 Corvair coupe or convertible, 4-speed. Must be original and in very good condition. Dan Shupp, 219 Douglas St., Reading, PA 19601. phone (215) 478-1434.

Wanted: Newsletter Editor for monthly publication. Short hours, no pay, meager fringe benefits. Must like Corvairs. Will furnish "Company Car" (1980 Datsun with rust holes the size of Ralph Nader's briefcase). If interested, contact Temporary Editor at address shown below, or call Chapter President.

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Niagara Frontier Corvair Club  
P.O. Box 45  
Buffalo, NY 14224

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A Chartered Chapter of the Corvair Society of America

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President.....	Dick Dahmer	825-4036
Vice President....	Don Smith	731-5010
Secretary.....	Bob Kurneta	634-3941
Treasurer.....	Bob Covell	434-0181

'Vair-iations  
Editor.....(Help!.....Help!...)

Temporary Editor..Dick Dahmer  
53 Melberry Trail  
Orchard Park, NY 14127

Club Membership - \$10.00 per year. Dues may be paid at monthly meetings or by sending to Club address above.

Membership year runs from July 1 through June 30.

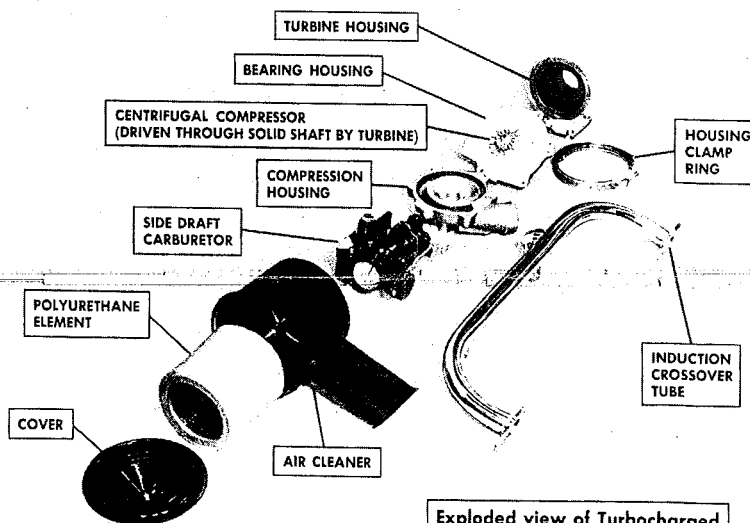
Newsletter submissions should be sent directly to the (temporary) Editor, by the 20th day of the month prior to publication.

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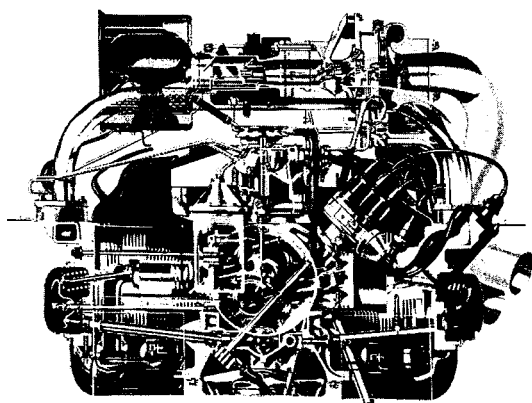


The new Chevrolet Corvair Monza Spyder has one of the lowest silhouettes of any American production car. Special features on the convertible include a strengthened underbody which gives added rigidity. A manually-operated top, counterbalanced for ease of operation, is standard but an automatic power top is available as an option. Total height is less than 50 inches.

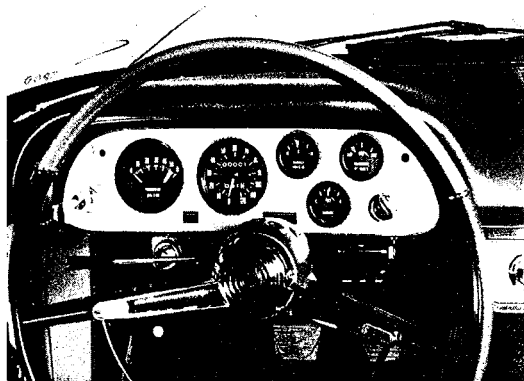
# Corvair's Exciting New Turbocharged Monza Spyder



Exploded view of Turbocharged Induction system for Corvair 150 h.p. engine.



Spyder features a 150 hp turbo-charged rear engine which compares to current Corvair engines of 80 and 102 hp. Also includes a four-speed transmission and performance axle ratio, plus heavy duty suspension and brakes.



Special full gauge instrument cluster and identification of the Monza Spyder. Also contains as standard equipment dual automatic courtesy lights under the instrument panel and ash trays in arm rests at both sides of the rear seats.