

niagara frontier

corvair

club

VOLUME 52, NUMBER 2

February, 2024

Formed By And For Those Who Still Appreciate The CORVAIR Automobile

*** Celebrating our 51st anniversary 1973 - 2024 ***



I made it out to the Pembroke, Corfu, Darien Kiwanis Car Show back in September with the 65 Convertible. Always a great show. Pictured on the right are the participant “dash plaques” given to the first 200 participants. The best of show awards are at the top of the picture. Pre-registration counts towards the first 200, so often these are spoken for before the day of the show. They always give out a cool plaque like this which is actually made out of a car part. These diners are made from transmission coolers. I have been going for 12 years now and have quite a collection. These are a foot long and around 5 inches tall, They have done a parking meter, gas pump. Gumball machine,

ferris wheel, drive in and more. They had around 400 cars



Dues and Membership

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 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	Gary Swiatowy	(716) 716-439-5194
Secretary	John Dawley/volunteer fill in	(716) 832-8551
Treasurer	Dick Dahmer	(716) 480-7713
Membership	Dick Dahmer	(716) 480-7713

Club Membership - \$10.00 per year e-mail newsletter, . Dues may be paid at monthly meeting or by mailing: to the Club address above .
Membership year runs from July 1 to June 30.

NFCC Events and more!

NFCC MEETING SCHEDULE

NFCC Meeting Wednesday February 28th, at 7:00 PM at the First Trinity Lutheran Church 1570 Niagara Falls Boulevard Tonawanda If anyone is interested in meeting for dinner at 5:30 PM before the meeting. Buffalo Wild Wings on Niagara Falls Boulevard. Anyone interested please let me know ahead of time so I know how big a table to get.

March meeting Wednesday March March 27th. At 7:00 PM (location to be announced)

In case you don't know. There are newsletter options.

Your membership includes our monthly NFCC newsletter, but you also have the option to receive several other clubs newsletters as well. This could be 10 or more additional Corvair club newsletters from across the country, filled with cars for sale, tech tips and more. Most of you already receive the additional newsletters, If you are not receiving them, and want them you have to let me know by e-mail, If you are receiving them and do not want them, you have to let me know that as well by e-mail.

gswiatowy@rochester.rr.com





From the editor.....

ATTENTION EVENT ORGANIZERS!

31st Annual CAVALCADE OF CARS 2024
THRUWAY SERIES
HAMBURG, NY
March 1, 2, 3

INDOOR CAR SHOW!

★ Old School Review Room!
 ★ Live Music 6 + Different Bands!
 ★ 40+ Vendors!
 ★ TWO Buildings!
 ★ Pin-Up Contest!

Friday 4pm-9pm
 Saturday 10am-9pm
 Sunday 10am-5pm

★ Classic & Custom CARS!
 ★ MOTORCYCLES!
 ★ TRUCKS!
 ★ AND MORE!!

Participant & Vendor Registration Online: Cavalcadeofcars.com

33rd Annual... WNYRHS Winter Train & Toy Show

WESTERN NEW YORK RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

February 17th and 18th, 2024
 At the Events Center, 5620 South Park Ave.
 on The Fairgrounds in Hamburg, NY. 14075

TOY TRAINS
RAILROADIANA
COLLECTIBLE TOYS
DOLLS & MINATURES
OPERATING LAYOUT
LEGO PLAY AREA
BASKET RAFFLES
GUEST SPEAKERS

Saturday 10:00 am - 8:00 pm
Sunday 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

ADMISSION:
Adults: \$8.00
Children: FREE
(age 12 & Under)

FREE PARKING!

Directions to The Event Center...
 From I-190, Take Exit 56 (Blasdel), Turn Right on Milestrip, at the First Light, turn Left on South Park Ave. (Rt. 82) to 5620 South Park Ave. The entrance will be on your Left as you travel South.

wnyrhs.com
 Info: Call Art 716-637-1791 or feebeelovr@yahoo.com

NIAGARA FRONTIER CORVAIR CLUB JANUARY 2024 MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 7:15 pm.

Attendees included President Patrick Murphy, Vice President Gary Swiatowy, Treasurer Dick Dahmer, Chuck Facklam and Tom Lynch.

Treasurer's Report was given.

Membership reports no new members. We are still at 29 members and 2 honorary members.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Elections

- Nominations were to be made at the November meeting but not enough members were present for a quorum. December's meeting was canceled.
- Nominations were entertained but no one offered any nominations.
- Nominations will be accepted next month before the vote.
- The present slate of officers will be voted upon if there are no other members seeking office. This slate of officers includes Patrick Murphy for President, Gary Swiatowy for Vice President, Dick Dahmer for Treasurer, and John Dawley for Secretary.
- A vote for the slate of present officers to be elected to another term will be taken at the next meeting. {Note: A vote by members present at the meeting is the Robert's Rules method of passing the slate of officers. It is no longer a single vote by the Secretary. The only thing that supersedes Robert's Rules are the Bylaws.}

2. Constitution and Bylaws

- Tabled until the next meeting

NEW BUSINESS

- Pets Alive Car Show sponsored last year by the Niagara Frontier Corvair Club will be held this year on Saturday, August 3 with a raindate of Sunday, August 4. Future meeting will consider whether the club would like to sponsor the show again by paying for dash plaques. Last year, the club won the Club Participation Award for most vehicles attending.

(Continued next page.....)

Motion to adjourn was made by Tom Lynch and seconded by Dick Dahmer. Meeting adjourned at 7:40pm

Minutes provided by Pat Murphy



STREET ROD & HIGH PERFORMANCE

39th ANNUAL SWAP MEET
Rods & Customs of BUFFALO

SUNDAY... MAY 3, 2024

Sanborn Farm Museum, 2660 Saunders Settlement Road
(Rt. 31) Sanborn, NY 14132

7am-2pm

Parking & vendor space on first come basis
Car related items only Car Corral
Breakfast & Lunch available on grounds
Request all covid protocols be respected !!

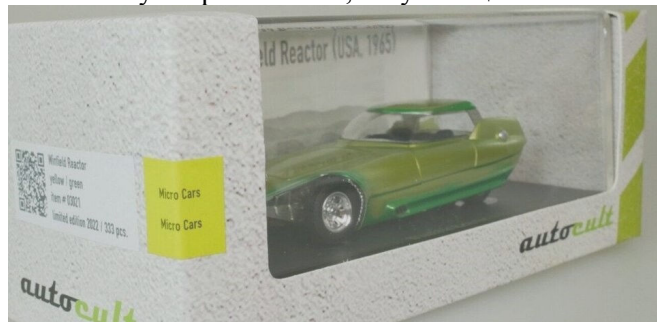
For info call:
Tom-716 694 0888, John-716 628 6786

Also listed on the WNY Bike Nights & Car Cruises (WNY-BNCC) Facebook Group

Small donation for vendors & parking go directly to Sanborn Farm Museum



Yet another Corvair Toy is out there. A 1:43 scale model of Gene Winfield's Reactor show car by Auto Cult. Hobby shop or internet, ebay over \$100.



The Reactor is a front-engined front wheel drive two seater. The bodywork, like that on Winfield's Strip Star, is of lightweight aluminum. The front wheels are exposed and fenderless, while the rears are enclosed by the bodywork and skirts. The roof panel is hinged at the rear and, together with the windshield, tilts up and back to give access to the interior.

Reactor was finished in a trademark Winfield fadeaway paint job, changing from metalflake gold on top to green below.

The car's low hoodline was made possible by its use of a version of the Chevrolet Turbo-Air 6 engine. A similar engine was used in The Man from U.N.C.L.E.'s Piranha

Winfield took the air-cooled 180 hp turbocharged flat-six engine from a Corvair Corsa and mated it to the drive-train of a 1962 Citroën DS ID 19, Winfield kept the wide front and narrow rear track of the donor Citroën, as well as its height adjustable hydropneumatic suspension, which enables the car's ground clearance to be varied from 4 to 9+1/2 inches



1960s television appearances

Winfield brought *The Reactor* to Hollywood in 1966. "I didn't know anybody" according to Winfield. He managed to show the car to the 20th Century Fox Studios transportation coordinator, and within two weeks the unique car had landed a television role.

- Bewitched, episode "Super Car" S3 E19 produced by Screen Gems.
- Star Trek, episode "Bread and Circuses" (as the Jupiter 8) S2 E25 produced by Paramount Television. At least 18 different publicity photos were taken with *The Reactor* and William Shatner.
- Batman, episode "The Funny Feline Felonies" (as the Catmobile) S3 E16 produced by 20th Century Fox Studios
- "Mission: Impossible", episode "The Freeze"

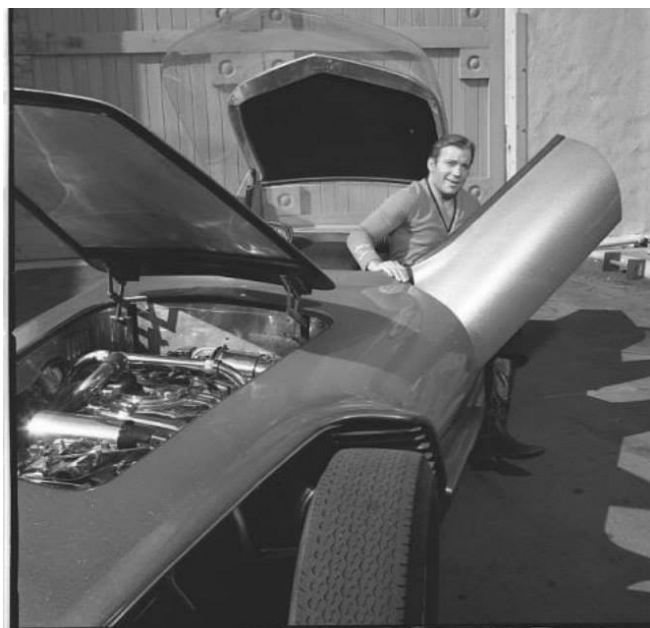
<https://redshirtgal.tumblr.com/search/jupiter%208>



Captain Kirk himself!



You can see the Corvair turbo motor



https://public.fotki.com/Rikster/11_car_photos/beautiful_custom_cars/gene_winfield/the_reactor/ More pictures



CONJURING UP 'THE CAR OF TOMORROW'

MAKING A "dream car" come true is easy for the witches on ABC's "Bewitched" Thursday night. Here, Dick York and Elizabeth Montgomery find a rare gift from his mother-in-law, Endora (Agnes Moorehead).

She conjures up a car York has been admiring in a newspaper photo. But you can't televise witchcraft without using real props. So this car

is a one-of-a-kind, costing \$20,000, made by custom auto stylist and builder Gene Winfield. It really runs, has a radar screen, flip-top roof, retractable fins and a 425-horsepower engine. It also has a hydraulic liquid-on-air suspension system, allowing the height to be changed from a ground clearance of 4 inches up to 9½ inches. It was painted with subtle shades of green over lime-gold metallflake.



As Catwomans "Cat Car" from the Batman TV series.





The Reactor making an appearance in the music video "As Long As We're Together" by The Lemon Twigs. The video was released in 2017.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xQ4nqnVOoMo>
 An absolutely horrid video.....Gary



On a more "affordable" note: Hot Wheels has released as a part of their Hot Wheels Boulevard series a 1966 Yenko Stinger. I like the color of this one better than the Jay Leno's Garage version. Look for this one anywhere you find Hot Wheels cars. Or if you hate the hunt, ebay is easy.



Snowbuster's Swap meet



I saw a few Corvair parts and toys here and there at the Snowbuster's swap meet. The above pictured FC grille and nose section. A few toys here and there as well, including the "Reactor" show car model from Auto Cult.

My big find of the day though was 4 late model Corvair carbs. Dirty but not seized for \$20. Made my day because they are worth \$45 each as cores. So I made more than I spent, always a good day!

I ran into a couple members there as well. Swap meet was a decent size, and what else are you going to do on a cold February day!

