

# niagara frontier

corvair

club

VOLUME 52, NUMBER 5

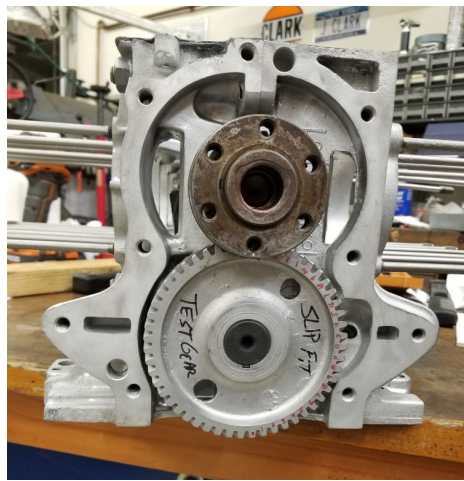
May, 2024

Formed By And For Those Who Still Appreciate The CORVAIR Automobile

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

## Building a modded FI 140 for my Wagon

By Tom Koprevich



The Crank was finished by the machine shop today so I was able to do some measurements. The main bearings checked out with the plastigage and so did the cam, good news. Put assembly lube on the crank and cam and put in block to measure endplay, checked out good. Put on factory temporary gear on camshaft to check camshaft against cam card.

Have a lifter modified with aluminum rod to do measurements.

The lift was within .001 on intake and spot on for exhaust. Also the .050 measurements and durations matched the cam card. It is tough to see in the picture but the timing wheel is made from plexi and engraved, but in person it is easy to read.

I also took a rod with bearing on it and swept the crank movement to make sure that I had enough clearance with the reliefs I had to make in the case for the longer throw of the LM crankshaft in a EM block. All was good.

Next I will double check the new cam gear matches the stock one and install on camshaft, do a few lock screws between cam and gear and dowel pin the crank gear.

Continued inside.....

## 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

**May NFCC Meeting Wednesday May 22nd at 7:00 PM at the First Trinity Lutheran Church on Niagara Falls Boulevard For those who want to meet 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.**

**June meeting Wednesday June 27<sup>th</sup>. 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](mailto:gswiatowy@rochester.rr.com)



From the editor.....

### Mark your calendars!

Monday Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> is "Corvairs and Playboys" cruise at the Wurlitzer!

The Monday cruises at the Wurlitzer typically bring in 500 to 600 cars, and the Corvair will share the spotlight with some of the Playboy automobiles right in the circle in front of the building.

The organizers of the cruise nights request 20-25 cars to reserve a feature night. Chuck Facklam has contacted some of the Playboy owners to secure some of their cars to join us so we have an adequate number of cars for the feature display.

This is an ideal opportunity to get as many club members and their cars together at one time. The cruise is free, and there is food available, and music as well.

We will need to start lining up and parking in the circle at 3:00 PM, with hopefully everyone in place by 5:00 PM. There will be room for some who may come late due to work requirements, but most should try and be there early. I sent out an email and have received a fairly good response. This will be open to any Corvair owners, not just NFCC members. So spread the word! More about Cruisin the Wurlitzer,

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100069444019204>

More info to come.....



New from Norev in 1:43 scale (HO) Con-Fer Dune buggy like the one Steve McQueen used in the movie. The Thomas Crown affair. Comes in 2 colors so far.



Has anyone ever heard of the Mud Creek Central Railroad? They are located in Rapids NY, (Near Lockport) and are a group of railroad modelers on a larger scale. They have several ride-on trains which can seat adults as well as children.

<https://www.facebook.com/MudCreekCentralRailroad/>  
video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wmnZGyGyW54>

<https://www.facebook.com/MudCreekCentralRailroad/videos/579113887153899/>

Pets Alive WNY

7007 Campbell Blvd.

Pendleton, N.Y.  
14120



Saturday,  
August 3, 2024

raindate:  
Sunday,  
August 4, 2024

12NOON - 4PM

Gates Open/Registration:  
11AM  
(no early arrivals, please)

\$12.00 Pre-Registration, by July 25, 2024 ~ \$15.00 Day-Of Registration

Pre-Register to enter drawing for \$25 restaurant gift certificate  
Dash Plaques for 1st 50 registered cars, compliments of Niagara Frontier Corvair Club

Cruisers' Choice, Club Participation, & Sponsors' Choice Awards

50/50 Basket Raffle Coffee, Hot Dogs, & Soft Drinks Available Tunes 'n Trivia Vendor & Crafter Area

★ 1 free Premium Raffle ticket for each 12 cans of Frisbees Cat Food donated ★

FOR MORE INFO & RAINDATE STATUS: PAT/(716)861-8749 ~ JOE/(716)848-9238

I release and waive any and all rights I may have against the promoter, sponsors, participants, and attendees from any and all responsibility and/or liability for any damage and/or loss to my vehicle, display, and/or property

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CLUB AFFILIATION: \_\_\_\_\_  
CAR YEAR/MAKE/MODEL: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

\* please make \$12.00 pre-registration check payable to Pets Alive WNY \*

\* please mail to Wheels for Whiskers - Pedals for Paws, c/o Pat Murphy, 2422 Long St., Grand Island, NY 14072 by July 25, 2024 \*

Save the date for this show, the NFCC is a sponsor and we have a great turnout of members. Music, food, and there is a neat basket raffle as well.


Come on out for the kitties!



The Central New York Corvair Club  
Presents the 48th Annual

# Corvair Recall

June 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> 2024



**Friday June 7<sup>th</sup>**  
Registration 4 pm - 6 pm  
Meet & Greet at Hampton Inn

**Saturday June 8<sup>th</sup>**  
Registration at hotel 8 am - 10 am  
Car Show & events in afternoon  
Awards Banquet in evening

**Sunday June 9<sup>th</sup>**  
Farewell Breakfast




Events at Hampton Inn by Hilton  
3948 State Route 31, Liverpool, NY 13090  
Phone 315-622-3443

Mention CNY Corvair Club for discount rate

For more information contact  
Lew Halstead - 315-529-1041  
or  
Corina Edwards - 315-439-3638

Hotel rate is effective  
until May 2nd, 2024. After  
May 2nd, rate is subject  
to hotel availability.

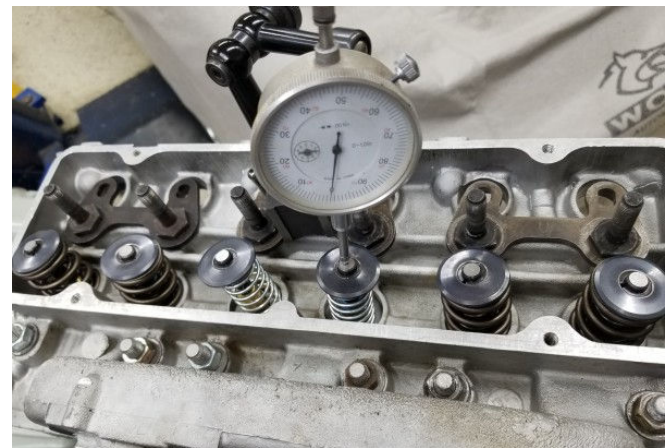
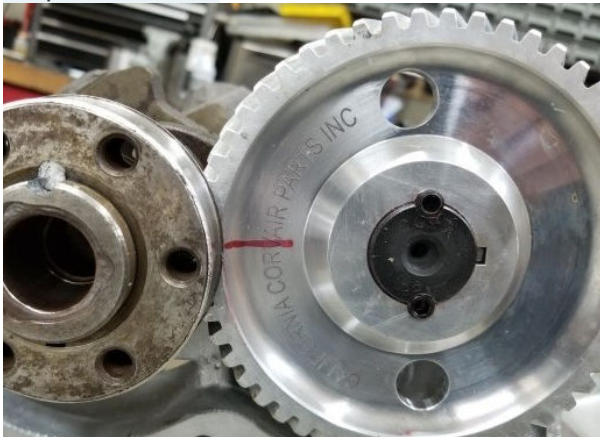



Balanced small and large end of rods.

140 build continued.....



Drilled and tapped cam gear and pinned crank gear  
for piece of mind.



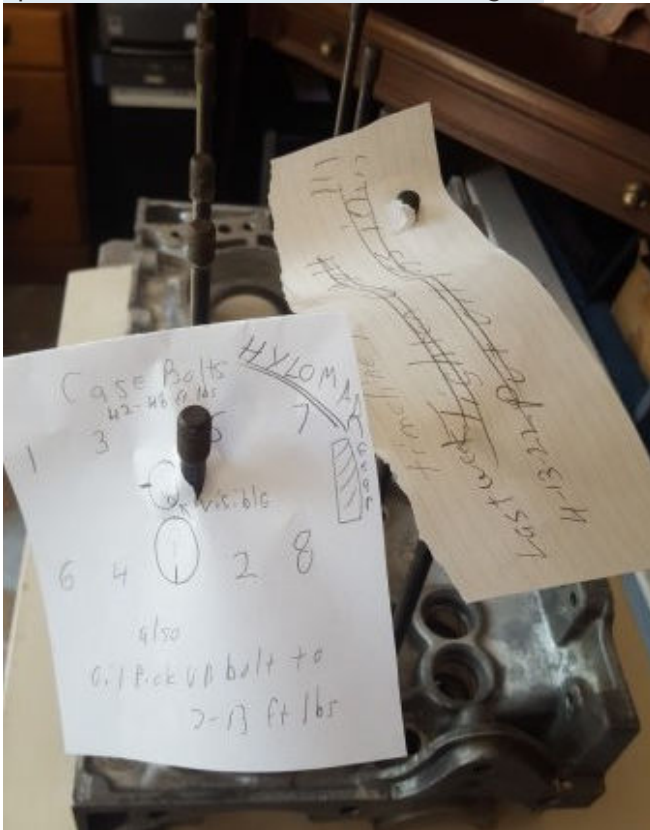
Checked for valve to piston clearance as per Bob  
Helts book. Plenty of room.







All Cylinders installed and clearances look good. Next up are baffles!!!!!! Don't want to forget.



YES (don't forget the clips)! I had various notes hanging off the engine just for that purpose! In this "case" (literally and figuratively) the sequence, torque limit, places I put Hylomar on the case and a reminder to tighten the oil pickup bracket.

5 steps forward 2 steps back. Went to install harmonic balancer and the crank no longer wanted to spin, hmmm.

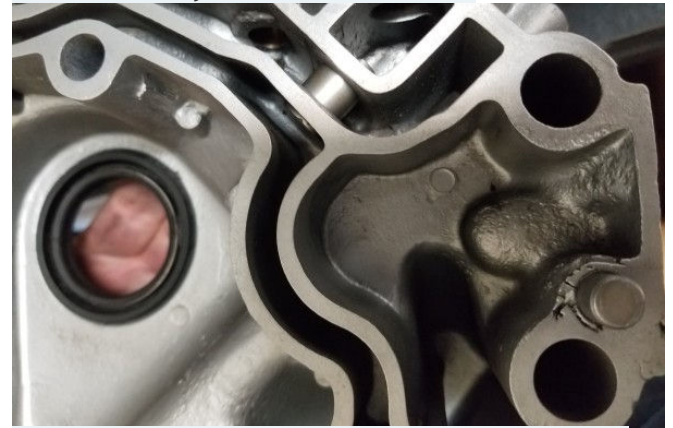
Initially though that I missed something on the aluminum pan the the cam gear was hitting something, nope.

Ended up being the rear cover. This is one of the heavy cast early covers, that I wanted to keep with the original case.

The end of the cam contacted the cover as seen in this pic. When I was snugging down the cover I thought it was the down pin being slight off.



In the newer style there is more room.



I used a annular cutter in opened up the area a bit. Now all is good, but of course I used my last gasket!





Well, while I wait for gaskets, I resurfaced the pressure plate and balanced the assembly. Wish I had a dynamic balancer, but this has worked well in the past.

The flywheel is going to be an aluminum flywheel with a steel friction surface 6lb. It should help the OTTO20 rev quickly!

I like to balance the individual components instead of the whole assembly, incase I need to change something in the future.



The basic fixture is a stand where the wood notches are the same height. On those sits a bearing that I remove the inner seal and cleaned out all the grease and put in wd-40 so they spin real easily.

There is a rod that is the same size as the bearing inner race that goes from side to side.

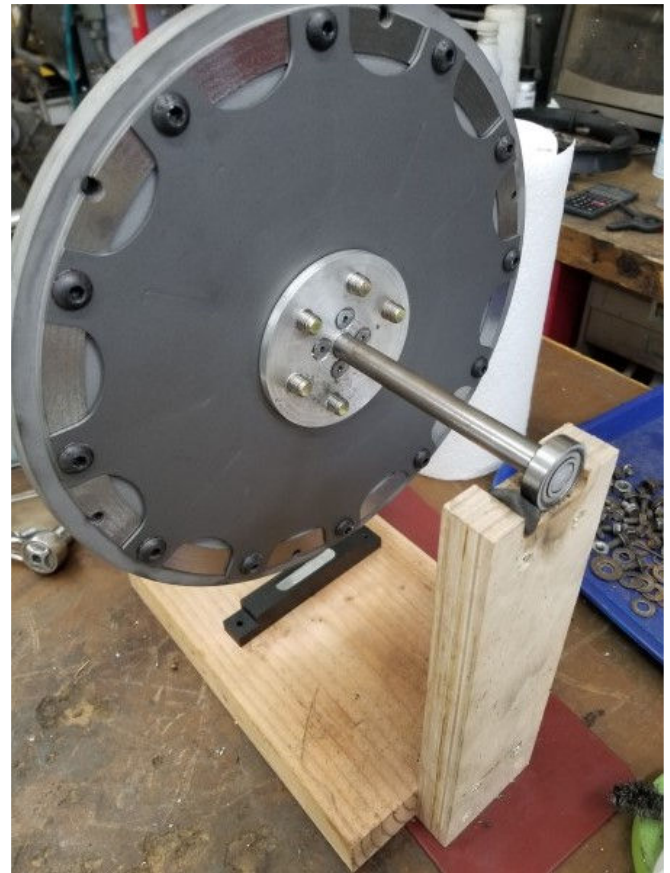
In the middle basically are just adapter pieces that slip on the rod and are held to the rod by a set screw. (You would need a lathe to make them or a 3d printer)

I will post another picture with a flywheel on it. The part on it now snugly fits the center of the pressure plate and holds it while balancing.

As for how I balance, just put on fixture and the heavy side will drop. I usually take a magnet and put it on the other side to get an idea of how much material I need to remove. If the magnet is close to slowing the heavy side from dropping I drill a hole in

the heavy side just smaller than the magnet and work my way up. What you are looking for is no repeatable stopping point with several tries, also it will just come to a stop it will not back pedal.

On this I drilled one hole about 3/8" then had to add two smaller 1/8 holes a little counter clockwise to get it as best as I can. Just make sure you are not near an edge that would cause a weak spot.



Here are some more pics of the mount with out the pressure plate adapter in place. The adapter bolts to where the flywheel would mount.

Also the combo (minus clutch friction) for final balancing. Sometimes you get lucky and can "clock" the pressure plate and flywheel to get balance or close and then adjust a minor amount for final assembly balance.

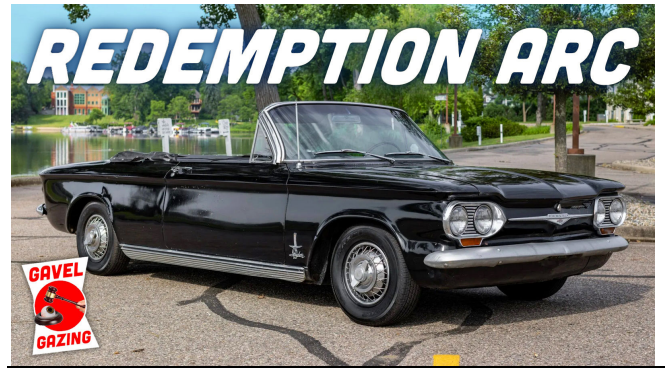
The center hub is turned to fit the bore of the flywheel, a plate to bolt the flywheel to is bolted to the hub and the whole thing sits on the shaft.

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Thanks to Tom Koprevich for sharing his build with us.  
Gary



## **Here's Why The Chevrolet Corvair Is The Best Cheap Classic Car Right Now**

[https://www.theautopian.com/heres-why-the-chevrolet-corvair-is-the-best-cheap-classic-car-right-now/?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTEAAR2p9iR4j9cmZlkte9Kc26DHuY P-U2LDLpzyEslkYOCoyPAzTmYb6DdhYCg\\_aem\\_AfqVNDIbRZ5KxyD5E4cErFU-5F5FZsldpDltpwf0Q0sU2jIPNTlhZxaP3EDO86EB9RtfyUgrYoeN8\\_rcyL0uQ](https://www.theautopian.com/heres-why-the-chevrolet-corvair-is-the-best-cheap-classic-car-right-now/?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTEAAR2p9iR4j9cmZlkte9Kc26DHuY P-U2LDLpzyEslkYOCoyPAzTmYb6DdhYCg_aem_AfqVNDIbRZ5KxyD5E4cErFU-5F5FZsldpDltpwf0Q0sU2jIPNTlhZxaP3EDO86EB9RtfyUgrYoeN8_rcyL0uQ)



## **Crawford Auto Museum celebrates Chevy Corvair with 'American Porsche' 64th birthday exhibition, cruise-in**

[https://www.cleveland.com/entertainment/2024/04/crawford-auto-museum-celebrates-chevy-corvair-with-american-porsche-64th-birthday-exhibition-cruise-in-photo-gallery.html?utm\\_campaign=clevelanddotcom\\_sf&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=facebook&fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTEAAR2N8qEvjGDfdcz2BTHzCISIZK\\_Esxukab\\_fxuG4hFjrCsm8UZxHFy2Wots\\_aem\\_AfqimH0M9X6xyeNw3qET3WlqJ8a6aO5pKvr-DAMzf0tncrRtYVUBXJ05zkygiCMnMe2057cczqeOj\\_4E6kP4dGF0](https://www.cleveland.com/entertainment/2024/04/crawford-auto-museum-celebrates-chevy-corvair-with-american-porsche-64th-birthday-exhibition-cruise-in-photo-gallery.html?utm_campaign=clevelanddotcom_sf&utm_medium=social&utm_source=facebook&fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTEAAR2N8qEvjGDfdcz2BTHzCISIZK_Esxukab_fxuG4hFjrCsm8UZxHFy2Wots_aem_AfqimH0M9X6xyeNw3qET3WlqJ8a6aO5pKvr-DAMzf0tncrRtYVUBXJ05zkygiCMnMe2057cczqeOj_4E6kP4dGF0)

Anyone up for a trip to Cleveland?

"Corvair: The American Porsche?" runs through September 20 and includes the snazzy Monza Spyder, Yenko Singer, Greenbriar, Rampside and more. Crawford has also arranged for a mid-summer [Corvair Cruise-In on from 4-8 p.m. Thursday, June 27](#) to coincide with the exhibition.



## Minutes of April 2024 Meeting.

April meeting began at 7:04 PM, and presided over by vice president Gary Swiatowy in Pat Murphy's absence.

There were 6 members in attendance:

Gary Swiatowy  
Dick Dahmer  
Tom Koprevich  
Tom Lynch  
Joe Grifasi  
Angelo Rizzo

Treasurer Dick Dahmer read the financial report, and membership report, several members have paid 2024-2025 dues already. (Note: club membership dues are due by July 1<sup>st</sup> of each year)

There was ongoing discussion of old business regarding the summer outing to Mud Creek Central Railroad in Rapids NY. And also the Corvair/Playboy night at the Wurlitzer cruise night on September 16<sup>th</sup>.

Tom Lynch has volunteered going forward to act as meeting Secretary when available

New Business: Gary brought up the Corvair display at the Crawford Auto Museum in Cleveland, Ohio. (See info and link on previous page)

There was also discussion on various other Corvair and general automotive topics.

Joe Grifasi brought in some pictures to share with the group.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM

Submitted by Gary Swiatowy

### Star Wars day 2024



May the 4<sup>th</sup> be with you.....

## Another Corvair has been featured in a new movie!



New Jerry Seinfeld movie called "Unfrosted" is now on Netflix. Movie is a comedy about the breakfast food Pop Tarts. In the film Jerry drives a yellow Lakewood wagon with fender skirts

<https://www.netflix.com/tudum/videos/unfrosted-trailer>

