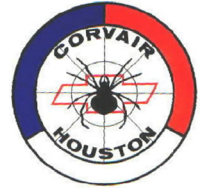


Corvair Houston Newsletter



VOLUME 40 ISSUE 3

MARCH 2014

This month: Club Meeting at the Party Barn on Friday, March 21st



Annual Pancake Breakfast at the Jannise's

Driver's Seat
by Mark Clarke

Distributor Tech Session (2 of 3)
by Howard King

Corvette/Chevy Expo

2 Birthdays & Anniversaries

3 Calendar

4 Treasury Report

5 Classifieds/Bulletin Board

5 A Friend Remembered
by Matt Feehery

6 Map to Party Barn

6

7

8

Driver's Seat

by Mark Clarke



Well, I am glad to announce that I was without a Corvair for only 2 months. I purchased a very nice 1963 Monza convertible in early February from a gentleman in Baytown. Our long time members recall that I owned a 1963 Monza convertible from 1998 to last May, as this was the car that I inherited from my dad (Bill Clarke) after he passed away in October 1998. While my dad had been an active member (and past president) of Corvair Houston for many years from the early 80's through 1998, I really did not know too much about Corvairs as we never owned one while I was growing up. We had a few Ford Falcons and more than one Buick Skylark along with a couple of Chevy pickup trucks. My dad did build a sandrail dune buggy my junior year of high school and he installed a Corvair engine which more than adequately powered the light weight dune buggy. I recall that my Uncle Tom Clarke (who is still a

member of Corvair Houston for the last 30 plus years) had an early model convertible when he and my Aunt Joan lived in San Francisco, CA. In fact, I suppose you could say that my Uncle is responsible for me being a member (and now second term president) as he persuaded my dad to join back around 1984. I always knew that my dad enjoyed being a club member and that his Corvairs (he also owned a 1961 rampside) were important to him. I am just glad that I kept the '63 convertible for so many years and had so much fun creating memories with my wife and 2 kids (now grown). I hope to create more memories with my 2 granddaughters (age 1 and 3) and pass on an appreciation for the car that we all love and enjoy.

While I would have never sold my dad's convertible (it was totaled last May when an uninsured motorist ran a stop sign and t-boned me), at least this time, I bought a convertible in my favorite colors (maroon and white). I

had a tough time walking away from my dad's car after it was wrecked, but after some wise counsel from Mike Tidwell, I made the tough decision to move on. One thing I do know is that cars (even our favorite Corvairs) can be replaced. Friends and family members cannot be replaced. This month marks the one-year anniversary of the passing of our good friend, Brett Finley. Brett passed away on March 4, 2013 at the age of 53 following a courageous three-year battle with cancer. I miss my good friend Brett, but I cherish the memories and I am so glad that his wife (of 25 years), Kelly Finley, remains not only a member, but an active member, serving as our club treasurer. Please be sure and let Kelly know that you appreciate her commitment to the club.

We had a great turnout for the annual Pancake Breakfast last month and I would like to thank Ricki and Sally Jannise for continuing to host this important kick off event. We participated in

the Corvette/Chevy Expo at Reliant Center on Valentine's weekend and we had a total of 6 Corvairs representing the club. I would like to thank Matt Feehery for his efforts in organizing this event and thank you to Ricki Jannise, Jim Watkins, Mike Tidwell, Greg Wrobeske, Todd Hasfjord and Matt Feehery for displaying their cars in the show. Last weekend, we had a total of 5 Corvairs and about 16 members came out to the Bellville Car Show and Castle Tour. It was an enjoyable event and it was good to see grandchildren (from the Dunlap, Clarke and Protteau families) represented.

If you have not already done so, please be sure and register for Heart of Texas 2014 in Johnson City, Texas. HOT is one of my favorite events as it gives us the opportunity to see a great collection of Corvairs from our great state and beyond. I look forward to seeing everyone at the Party Barn this Friday.



Distributor Failures: Causes and Cures (Part 2 of 3)

by Howard King



Many Corvair owners never go past replacing the usual tune-up parts, but we are going to venture below the point plate. The point plate can have wear along with the distributor bushing.

Roll the engine around to the next position where the points are fully open.

Carefully remove the rubber boot over the vacuum advance and the two screws holding the point plate to the distributor housing. This will allow the plate to be lifted up and off. This plate is a composite of two plates where the upper plate pivots on a pin fixed into the lower one. As the vacuum

advance engages it causes this plate to move counter clockwise advancing the position where the points will open. There are three areas of concern; the pivot point, the pin that extends into the vacuum advance and the hole in the vacuum advance arm. The vacuum advance pin is a visual inspection. If the hole or pin is worn there is excessive play and the offending part should be replaced. Some play is acceptable.

Next try to move the upper plate by exerting a push-pull motion, from the vacuum advance pin to the pivot pin, which holds the two together. This motion is the same direction

the points move opening and closing. There should be very little to no play, as this affects the dwell angle. The worse it is, the less stable the dwell and timing are. These plates are held together by a coil spring on the pivot pin. There is also a stabilizing spring at the surface of the plate to compensate wear at the pivot. As you try to move the upper plate you must overcome this spring tension.

Below this plate is the centrifugal advance mechanism. It is an ugly mess of physics to try to explain the interactions. Let's use the KISS principal here. Before we do any parts removal, check the distributor bushing play using the side to side motion on the top of the point centrifugal cam. See Photo 1. Here again, this should be only a minimal play.

I would consider rebuilding it if this was 10 thousandths or more. In the past when replacing the bushings in the distributor case I set the bushing to shaft clearance

at 2 or 3 thousandths. Excessive play will affect consistent dwell and timing. By the way 10 thousandths is roughly half of the points opening, look for this in the above test.

At this time you should also check the shaft end play by moving the shaft up and down. Look for an end play of less than 1/8 inch. Play here has minimal affect on timing. This is because as the shaft moves up and down its position in relation to the crankshaft position changes little. Two helical gears form the interchange from crank to the distributor. Note all play found in these tests, so you can decide if a rebuild is needed.

There is a retainer plate, held on by two screws, a point advance cam, two weights and two springs below the point plate.

Pull the two screws from the cam advance retainer plate and pick up on it for removal. (See Photo 2). Take a photo of the position of the cam and weights. You

Continued on Page 7



Photo 1

Corvette/Chevy Expo 2014



Newman Castle Tour - Bellville, TX



the Corvair Houston Bulletin Board

Happy Birthday To:

Todd Hasford	Mar. 3rd
Jon Protteau	Mar. 4th
Robert Freeman	Mar. 7th
Dennis Svetlik	Mar. 7th
Roger Garrett	Mar. 7th
Gearly Grimes	Mar. 8th
Charles Atkinson	Mar. 13th
Mark Clarke	Mar. 23rd
Scott Brittin	Mar. 25th

Happy Anniversary To:

Mike & Audrey Tidwell	Mar. 23
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Heart of Texas Reunion

The 2014 Heart of Texas Reunion is coming on April 25th - 27th!! Alamo City Corvair Association is the host club this year and it will be held at in Johnson City.. You must register for both the event and the hotel room! The host hotel is:

Best Western Johnson City (HW 281/290)
 107 South HW 281/290
 Johnson City, TX 78636

The number to call for hotel reservations is 830-868-4044. Be sure and tell them you are making your reservations for the CORVAIR Heart of Texas Reunion. The room rate is \$90 plus tax per night. Check out the HOT web page on the CH website: <http://www.corvair-houston.com> for all of the information and forms you need to register. Be sure to make your hotel reservations and turn in your registration to Rich Rivbble with ACCA.. Room reservations are filling fast so do not delay.

The Corvair Society of America (CORSA)



“Founded in 1969 by and for those who still appreciate the Corvair automobile”



Corvair Houston strongly encourages all members to become members of the Corvair Society of America (CORSA). Anyone with a fondness of the Corvair automobile will benefit from CORSA membership. In addition, we will all benefit by maintaining a strong national presence to lobby our interests and organize our collective purposes.

PLEASE do not overlook the potential value of a CORSA membership. Try it out. Your first year will cost only \$45. For more information, contact any of the Corvair Houston officers listed on the back of this newsletter, or contact:

CORSA
 P.O. BOX 607
 Lemont, IL
 60439-0607
www.corvair.org

Corvair Houston Calendar

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
Mar. 21st	Club meeting	Party Barn	M. Clarke
Apr. 7th	Board meeting	TBA	M. Clarke
Apr. 18th	Club meeting	TBA	M. Clarke
Apr. 25-27	HOT 2014	Johnson City, TX	M. Clarke
May 16th	Club Meeting	TBA	M. Clarke
May 17th	Dewberry Fest	Cameron, TX	D. Watkins

Bulletin Board

Our 40th Year!

Get the New 2013-2018 Catalog
March 1 - December 24, 2013

When you place your first order over
\$40.00 you get a FREE Catalog as a
40th Anniversary Thank You

(additional catalogs \$3 with an order)

The new Catalog includes parts from the last 5
Supplements as well as 100's of improvements
(including better descriptions, more photos & new
charts). Changes / additions to over 70% of the
pages, this is our most major revision ever.



Clark's Corvair Parts®

400 Mohawk Trail, Shelburne Falls, MA 01370
(413) 625-9776 www.corvair.com

Annual Dues Reminder

As always, our club dues expire at the end of the year and are due as of January 1st. If you are a Corvair Houston member only, dues are \$25/year. If you are also a CORSA member, your dues are \$20/year. If you're not sure, contact Ricki Jannise as he has a current list from CORSA (ph. 281-259-2256, rsjannise@gmail.com). You can pay at the meeting(s) by cash or check or you can mail them to: Ricki Jannise at 13102 N. Decker, Magnolia, TX 77355-8461. Please make checks out to: Corvair Houston. The March 2014 issue of the newsletter will be the last issue for those members who have not paid their dues for Calendar 2014. .

TREASURY REPORT

REPORT AS OF FEBRUARY 28TH, 2014

Beginning Balance	\$7,031.98
Receipts	
Deposits	\$422.04
Subtotal	\$7,454.02
Withdrawals:	
Expenses	-0-
Service Fee	\$15.00
Ending Balance	\$7,439.02

New Members!

Please welcome:

Jeff & Lyne Kaufmann
1966 CORSA 140-4

Please welcome:

Ron & Michelle Richburg
1965 Monza Convertible

Please welcome:

Ken Boysen
1965 CORSA Convertible

Various Early parts for Sale:

Bumpers, sheet metal, convertible glass,
dash parts, Contact Mark Clarke for details

For Sale: 1969 Monza Coupe

Rust free, body work and paint by Demo's
Automotive. New interior upholstery and
carpet. 110hp PG drive train. Shown in
AutoRama in 2010. Over \$15,000 invest-
ed. Make an offer. Contact Lloyd Jannise
409-721-9812 or Ricki Jannise 713-702-
6716 or rsjannise@gmail.com. More
photos available upon request.

Distributor Failures: Causes and Cures (Part 2 of 3)

by Howard King



Continued from Page 3

know a picture is worth.....

With a sharp tool like and awl or dental type hook pick remove the two springs. Carefully hold on to them as they can fly off.

Pull straight up on the point cam, to remove, and note the position of the pins. Hold the cam in the same position for a bit. Note that one pin

is only on top and one goes through. This lower protruding pin sets in a hole in the fixed plate. The pin to hole play gives the max centrifugal advance.

You will probably see two such holes. One hole is the one the pin just came out of and the other is almost opposite it (see Photo 3).

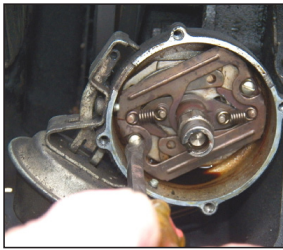


Photo 2



Photo 3

A Friend Remembered

by Matt Feehery

After a long and courageous battle with cancer, our good friend Brett Finley (age 53) passed away peacefully at his home Monday morning, March 4, 2013. Those of us who knew Brett enjoyed the company of a man who was a friend to all he encountered. He always found a way to see the good in people and bring out their best attributes. He was more concerned about how his wife Kelly, family, business colleagues, fellow church members and Corvair

Club friends were doing than he ever was about his own situation or condition. With a cheerful demeanor, positive attitude and amazing spirit Brett was able to rise above the pain and endure the hardship. And when it was time for this life to end Brett seemed ready. He had fought the good fight and won most of the battles along the way.

We all had the opportunity to enjoy Brett's quick wit and his engaging discussions about everything from cars to politics. He

could make people laugh, but more importantly, Brett knew how to make people feel special and valued. He was a considerate, thoughtful person and a man of his word. Brett was a good-hearted, kind soul who made the world a better place because of his presence. He will be missed greatly and remembered fondly.

May God bless Kelly and his family during this difficult time and always.



Brett Finley
January 6, 1960 - March 4, 2013

Corvair Houston
 13102 N. Decker Drive
 Magnolia, TX 77355-8461

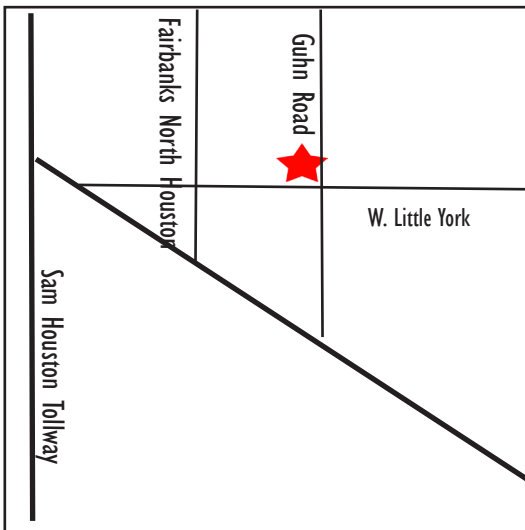
Deliver to:



Check out Ricki Jannise's new display sign

**CLUB MEETING TO BE
 HELD ON FRIDAY
 MARCH 21ST AT THE
 FEEHERRY PARTY BARN**

Map to the Meeting Location
 6914 Guhn Road



Corvair Houston



Corvair Houston, the local chapter of the Corvair Society of America, is a non-profit association dedicated to the preservation of the Corvair automobile. Dues are \$25 per year (\$20 for CORSA members). The club conducts regular monthly meetings, and also sponsors or participates in other activities through the year: local and national car shows, picnics and barbecues, races and museum events, and road trips to locations within and about the Houston area. If you are interested in the Corvair and would like information about our organization, please call one of our club officers.

2013 Officers:

President	Mark Clarke	281-217-8573
Vice President	Ed Walsh	281-825-6361
Secretary	Richard Jonec	713-471-2121
Treasurer	Kelly Finley	281-615-9522
Director	Alan Dunlap	281-203-9977
Director	Ricki Jannise	281-259-2256
Director	Jim Watkins	979-824-6225

Committees:

Membership & Library	Ricki Jannise	281-259-2256
Historian/Car Locator	Guy Bobkoff	713-666-0475
Merchandise	Dee Watkins	979-848-6713
Newsletter	Mark Clarke	281-217-8573
Website	Dave Keseian	936-689-8179
Events Coord./Photographer	Jim Watkins	979-824-6225
H.O.T. Chairperson	Greg Wrobleske	281-356-5542
Social Chair	Sally Jannise	281-259-2256
Technical Chair	Mike Tidwell	281-748-4576
Club Email	Richard Jonec	832-559-1629