

Corvair Houston Newsletter



VOLUME 41 ISSUE 3

MARCH 2015

This month: Club Meeting on Friday, March 20th at the Party Barn
and Fun Run to Navasota & beyond on Saturday March 21st



Annual Pancake Breakfast & Parts Auction

Driver's Seat
by Ed Walsh
Rear View Mirror
by Jon Protteau
Member Profile
by Matt Feehery

2 | An Experience with Stripping
by Howard King
3 | Treasury Report
3 | Birthdays & Anniversaries

4 | Classifieds/Bulletin Board 7
6 | Calendar 7
6 | Map to Meeting Location 8

Driver's Seat

by Ed Walsh



I am pleased to announce that spring has sprung. The clocks have been pushed an hour ahead and it's time to get the Corvairs out. Our March club meeting is March 20th at the Party Barn. Mike Feehery, our gracious host will prepare grilled pork lion or fish dinner with sides for \$10. For those of you that have never been to a meeting or have not been to one recently, this is your opportunity. Plenty of Cor-

vair talk going on, lots of Corvairs and great people. Come on out!

We have our March 21st Fun Run the day after the meeting. Mike Tidwell has gone to great efforts to make this a memorable fun run to Willis to Anderson to Navasota and back. This fun run will stop at many interesting places along the way. More information on this event will be provided at the meeting on Friday. After meeting many of the

initial Corvair Houston club members at our 40th anniversary party, I realized what the club has always been about. Interesting cars, great people and the fun events that bring us together. I encourage everybody to get your Corvairs out for this event. This also is a time to road test your Corvair so it will be ready next month for the Heart of Texas event in Burnet, Texas sponsored by the Austin club.

Our next Board

meeting will be Monday April 6th at Fud-druckers near the Willow Brook Mall at 6:30 p.m. Again, I encourage everybody to come on out and participate in the events. The great thing about Corvair Houston is that we are one of the more active car clubs and have great dedicated members. For those of you that have not attended a meeting or event recently, come on out and enjoy the fun. Happy Motoring.



Photos from Pancake Breakfast/Auction



Rearview Mirror

by Jon Protteau



On Saturday, February 21st, Corvair Houston had its annual Pancake Breakfast, Parts-Auction, and hot dog lunch at the Sally & Ricky Jannise Ranch in greater Magnolia. More than 25 members enjoyed a leisurely breakfast created by the Corvair Cooks including Sally Jannise, Audrey Tidwell and Gail Brown. Sally once again provided an upscale-dining look with fresh flowers at every table. Following the breakfast, everyone

meandered outside for the Parts-Auction. From the auction Mark Clarke, Ed Murphy, and Alan Dunlap donated 100% of their profits back to the club giving the club a total of \$583.00, and that amount added to the usual 10% auction fees of \$191.00 provided the club treasury with a healthy \$774.00 donation. Following the auction, the Corvair Cooks provided everyone with a really tasty hot dog lunch including those sinfully

delicious desserts brought by various club members.

Also of note, Jim Watkins' super-clean '63 Monza won the "Best Open Class" at the Super Chevy Show in Houston in October, and then picked up "Best in Class 1960 - 1969" last week at the Brazoria Car Show. We hope that Jim doesn't attract so much attention to Corvairs that they appreciate right out of our price range.

This article may seem a

bit shorter than usual, but I have to get "Old Blue" ready for the 12th Ever Classic Car Stampede which is being held on the 2nd Saturday of March on the downtown square in Bellville, Texas. Of course, we will be meeting at Newmann's Bakery for breakfast! More about this next month unless our Newsletter Editor holds the press for an update. See you at the meeting on Friday.



Member Profile

Bruce & Vicki Eichenberg

by Matt Feehery



Bruce and Vicki Eichenberg have an interesting story about their path to Corvair ownership. Bruce's initial introduction to the Corvair was in 1969. While in college he acquired a 1964 Monza convertible, white with red interior and a white top. "I wrecked it after about 6 months; not my fault, but still it was gone. I loved that little 4-speed even though the heater almost asphyxiated me

in the winter months in Michigan, not to mention the frostbite! But I was 19 and life was good."

Vicki learned how to drive in a Corvair and now, after all these years, she has one of her own. Adds Bruce, "I needed her to become interested in my car hobby. Every time I took her to AutoRama she was only interested in the Corvair Houston displays so I bought her a 1966 Corvair convert-

ible. It worked and I fell in love with her Corvair."

Soon after the purchase Bruce found out all was not right with the Corvair and he set out to find the right people to help him. They had purchased their Corvair in April of 2013 and it would be almost a year before it ran properly. He and Vicki joined Corvair in Houston in August of 2013. "At first I just wanted to find someone who

could fix a really messed up 1966 Corvair. Then I just really liked the people involved in the club. I also found Mike Tidwell who took a lemon of a Corvair and made it a real nice driving and safe car."

Bruce regrets having bought the car sight unseen from someone in California without personally going to inspect it. "I had a third party look at it and even that individual

Continued on Page 5

An Experience with Stripping

by Howard King



OK, call it a provocative title, but I just don't get real excited about stripping paint from anything. That said, I have a project car I acquired from Oklahoma that had been in a barn since 1972. Good you say, well yes, but before being put there it had some body repair work and a cheap paint job applied to it. To further make it difficult the paint was applied as if doing a color change. This means in the door pockets as well. The better part is they used automotive enamel. All Corvair owners should know that the original paint used was a lacquer. Why is this good you ask? Simple when stripping enamel paint it wrinkles

up and comes loose easier.

The thought of doing this with the standard aircraft stripper made my skin crawl because of potential dangers, mess and the environmental issues. I thought it would be great to find a product that was more friendly and green. My experience however has usually been that green products don't work very well, or at least as good as the ones they replace.

I work for a job shop industrial coater and remembered a product some years back that we had used to help remove many layers of industrial coatings from a large skid. I soon discovered that the company had done away with the product line, but

there was another company producing a similar one. The company is Sunnyside which offers strippers that advertise removing from 7 to 25 paint layers. Two of these can be found in some hardware stores for a price competitive to the aircraft stripper in a gallon size container.

The product I chose is Ready Strip Plus. The picture, Photo 1, is a quarter panel after brushing with the Plus and sitting awhile. They recommend 4 hours, but it may work better for you in a little less time.

The best part of this is that it works well and cleanup is a snap. Since the old stripped paint is dry the residue falls easily and can be swept with a broom

for disposal. See Photo 2 for the cleanup method.

No damaging solvents to get you or the environment. Personal protection is always advised, but this stuff is really mild compared to the old. It smells a little like Denteen gum.

It softened the lacquer base and even the thin Bondo in places. I was surprised at how well it has done. Anybody want to come and help?

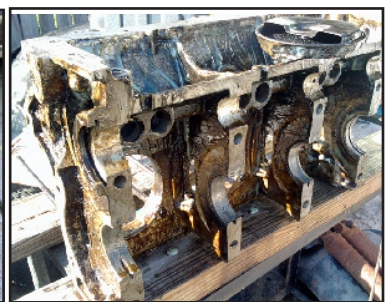
Additionally I discovered that this stripper does a great job cleaning the brown varnish from the block (see Photo 3). Brush it and wait a while, then power wash it off. See the Photos 3 and 4 for the before and after of the block cleaning.



Photo#1



Photo#2



Photo#3

Member Profile

Bruce & Vicki Eichenberg

Continued from Page 4

by Matt Feehery



lied to the tune of costing me many thousands of dollars over and above my initial investment.” Before meeting Mike he had already spent a small fortune on the Corvairst and it did not get him any closer to driving the car. “It was my own fault but I still love that little convertible. Thanks Mike.”

Not the mechanical type, Bruce is happy to clean and drive his classic cars. Besides Vicki’s Corvairst, Bruce has a base model 1964 Buick Riviera: white with red interior, rebuilt 425 cid engine, rebuilt Turbo 400 automatic transmission and rebuilt a/c. He adds, however, that the Corvairst “is my favorite car over the Buick.” Now he and Vicki

are able to enjoy their short road trips around Lake Conroe in the Corvairst. Passers-by will often ask him what kind of car it is and others want to know if he will sell it.

Bruce’s favorite Corvairst model is the Corsa Convertible. “I would have said with a turbo if that was not the motor that crapped out and cost me so much for Vicki’s 1966 Monza. Now a 110 is just fine.” Although he has owned both an early and a late model, Bruce prefers the second generation Corvairst. “They still look good by today’s standards. I know earlys are and always will be the purest

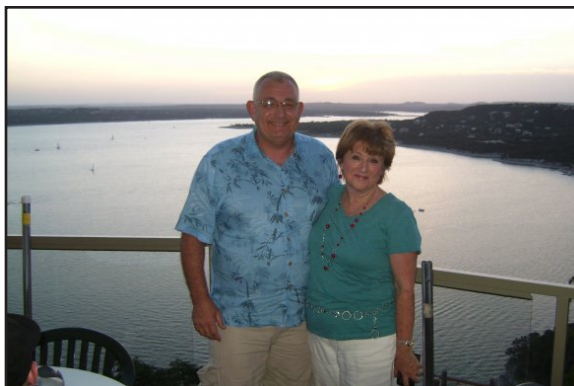
Corvairst but how can you not love the car the Camaro was modeled after?”

Bruce was born in 1950 in the Motor City (Detroit for the uninformed) and was raised in a small town north of Pontiac called Lake Orion. “I lived in a small home on the lake and love lake living. I have not been able to do so as an adult but it was a great place to grow up. I went to Lake Orion schools and graduated in 1968.” He attended Oakland Community College, majored in Law Enforcement (now called Criminal Justice) and obtained an Associate Degree.

“I got my first job as a Police Officer in 1971 in Marine City, Michigan and spent 6 years in that city.” It was a nice place to live, but there was not

much room to grow professionally, so in 1977 Bruce applied for a position with the Houston Police Department. He retired as a Sergeant for HPD in March of 2013. “I loved my job the entire 40 years.”

Vicki and Bruce were married on October 29, 2010 and, as he puts it, “life is good.” They reside in The Woodlands. In January 2014 Bruce was elected a Corvairst Houston Club Director. He is humble about his service in the new role, stating “I want to thank the membership for their trust in me and I will do my best to do a good job.” No doubt about that! It’s good to have Bruce and Vicki as members of the Corvairst Houston family.



Bruce & Vicki’s 1966 Monza convertible

Bulletin Board

Our 42nd Year!

Get the 2013-2018 Catalog. If you did not get the catalog in 2013 or 2014, you can get one FREE on your first \$50 order during 2015. (Additional catalogs \$3 with an order) Over 100 new repro parts in the past 3 years.



Clark's Corvair Parts®
400 Mohawk Trail,
Shelburne Falls, MA 01370
(413)625-9776 www.corvair.com

Member Note to the Editor:

Something came to my attention while reading on the Corvair forum, a Corvair owners car started running bad; he found his car had a large amount of water in the fuel ?

This occurred after a prolonged rain in his area, after checking he found of all things a june bug had plugged the water drain hole at the bottom of the fuel filler door compartment and the water entered the fuel tank through the fuel cap.

After all the rain we have had lately it reminded me that this could happen to some of our cars, pass this along if you think the members would be interested.

Motormouth (aka Jerry Kelley)

TREASURY REPORT

REPORT AS OF MARCH 9, 2015

Beginning Balance	\$5,271.21
Receipts	
Deposits (Auction)	\$774.00-
Deposits (Dues)	\$175.00
Subtotal	\$6,220.21
Withdrawals:	
None	-0-
Ending Balance	\$6,220.21

CORSA International Convention Knoxville TN

Hosted by Knoxville Corvair Club

June 23rd to June 27th

Host Hotel is Knoxville Marriott
865/594-4155, \$110 night.

Mention Corvair or go online at
corvair.org/2015convention/hotel-reg.html.

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 2015 issue of the newsletter will be the last issue for those members who have not paid their dues for Calendar 2015. .

the Corvair
Houston

Bulletin Board

Happy Birthday To:

Todd Hasford	Mar. 3
Jon Protteau	Mar. 4
Robert Freeman	Mar. 7
Dennis Svetlik	Mar. 7
Rebecca Garrett	Mar. 7
Geary Grimes	Mar. 8
Charles Atkinson	Mar. 13
Joyce Marshall	Mar. 13
Mark Clarke	Mar. 23
Kristen Jones	Mar. 24
Kristen Brennan	Mar. 25
Scott Brittin	Mar. 25

Happy Anniversary To:

Mike & Audrey Tidwell 19 years Mar. 23



Heart of Texas Reunion

The 2015 Heart of Texas Reunion is coming on April 17th - 19th!! Lone Star Corvair Club is the host club this year and it will be held at in Burnet. You must register for both the event and the hotel room! The host hotel is:

Comfort Inn
810 S. Water Street
Burnet, TX 78611

The number to call for hotel reservations is 512-756-1789. Be sure and tell them you are making your reservations for the CORVAIR Heart of Texas Reunion. The room rate is \$92.99 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 Gail Brown with LSCC.. 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. 20th	Club Meeting	Party Barn	E. Walsh
Mar. 21st	Fun Run	Navasota & beyond	M. Tidwell
Apr. 6th	Board Meeting	Fuddrucker's 1960	E. Walsh
Apr. 11th	Mecum Auction	Telwink Grill/NRG	J. Watkins
Apr. 17-19	HOT 2015	Burnet, TX	E. Walsh
May 16th	Dewberry Fest	Cameron, TX	D. Watkins

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

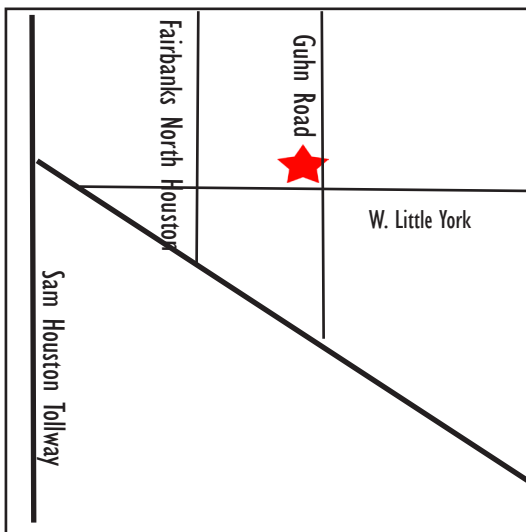
Deliver to:



Another Successful Auction at the Jannise's

**CLUB MEETING TO BE
 HELD ON FRIDAY
 MARCH 20TH AT THE
 FEEHERY 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.

2014 Officers:

President	Ed Walsh	281-825-6361
Vice President	Mike Tidwell	281-748-4576
Secretary	Jon Protteau	936-520-2395
Treasurer	Audrey Tidwell	832-434-1154
Director	Todd Hasford	281-704-3848
Director	Howard King	832-687-8251
Director	Bruce Eichenberg	281-380-1809

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