

Corvair Houston Newsletter



VOLUME 41 ISSUE 5

MAY 2015

This month: Dewberry Fest & Car Show in Cameron, TX on Saturday, May 16th & Club Meeting on Friday, May 22nd



HOT 2015 in Burnet, Texas

Driver's Seat
by Ed Walsh

Rear View Mirror
by Jon Protteau

Photos from HOT 2015

2 Treasury Report

3 Birthdays & Anniversaries

5 Classifieds/Bulletin Board

6 Calendar

6 Map to Meeting Location

7 Officer Listing

7

8

8

Driver's Seat

by Ed Walsh



Greetings Corvair brothers and sisters. We are heading full throttle into May. I first want to thank all our members that make our events possible. Corvair Houston is a special organization because of the folks that unselfishly contribute their time and efforts. For over 40 years this club has created many memorable events about people, places and great Corvairs. I encourage everybody to join us in our May events.

The 7th Annual Dewberry Festival and Car Show is May 16th in Cameron Texas. For those going up there on Saturday will meet up at

the Jack in the box on highway 290 and FM 1488. The caravan will leave at 6 am. Get there early and join us for coffee. This trip is a great excuse to leave the city behind and enjoy and enjoy a stress free drive to the country. Some of our members will be staying over night, but this is a short enough drive to go for just the day. The Dewberry car show keeps getting better every year and it seems like most years, someone from the club takes home a trophy or door prize. You will see all kind of interesting old cars and meet some genuinely nice people. The show is over by

mid afternoon and then in the evening we head over to Bobs Steak House for great food and Corvair talk. I hope to see everyone there.

Our club meeting will be May 22nd at the Party Barn. It starts at 6:30pm and Matt and Kim Feehery will be there. Tony Pomponio will be selling some early Corvair parts at the meeting so don't forget to bring cash. Tony has a lot of good stuff. We will also have a tech session by Mike Tidwell. Food, car parts and Corvair talk always makes our meetings a fun time.

CORSA will be holding the national con-

vention in Knoxville Tennessee from Tuesday through Saturday, June 27th. Several of our members will be attending. The Tidwell's have graciously offered to host a TUNA at their home on Saturday, May 30th at 9 a.m. The TUNA is a hands-on tech session to get members cars ready for the drive to the Convention. Convention attendees will get priority. Bring your Corvairs and lawn chairs down and plan on staying for lunch (Tuna sandwiches will be provided, of course. Happy motoring and I hope to see you at a meeting event later this month.

Rearview Mirror

by Jon Protteau



On Friday, April 17th the Corvair Caravan left the Tidwell's home and frequent Corvair gathering center in Pinehurst in the early afternoon for a leisurely drive to Burnet for the Heart of Texas 19th

annual reunion. Joining Mike and Audrey Tidwell, who led the caravan with their yellow 1964 Monza Coupe, were Ricki and Sally Jannise in their 1965 Corsa Coupe; with his Greenbriar restoration still

in progress, Alan Dunlap drove Kelly Finley's 1965 4-door Monza; Ed and Julie Murphy caravanned in their 1965 Greenbriar Van and were followed by family members in other vehicles; Ed Walsh

drove his all-original-from-California-rust-free Corvan; and Betty and Jon Protteau followed in the 1962 Monza Convertible known as Old Blue.

At the Jack-in-the-Box
Continued on Page 3

Rearview Mirror

Continued from page 2

by Jon Protteau



on highway 290 outside of Hempstead, the Caravan then met-up with Matt and Kim Feehery who were driving their 1966 Corsa Coupe. The Corvair Houston Caravan made a pit stop for lunch at the Bastrop Road House restaurant. The hamburgers, hot dogs, fries, and service were all quite good.

Back on the road again, the leisurely drive turned into an exercise in survival when rain started pouring down just as the Caravan was approaching the south side of Austin during Austin's notorious Friday afternoon rush-hour. (Why do we call it "rush hour"? Is anybody rushing anywhere? Shouldn't it should be called "sitting-in-a-car-that-is-not-moving-on-the-highway hour.") Because Old Blue is never intentionally driven in the rain, it was a surprise to find that the new windshield leaked rain water around most of the perimeter seal. It soaked the carpet and our shoes, but at least it somehow missed the radio/cd player mounted in the middle of the floor under the dash.

Both pilot and navigator had to continuously wipe the inside of the windshield and the dashboard with towels in a vain attempt to stay dry, and so we could see where we were going. Although the massive downpour made seeing the car ahead of us virtually impossible, the Caravan was able to stay together and make it through the Austin area in just a few hours, thanks to the use of walkie-talkies to communicate. Although it sometimes felt like we were running a boat instead of a car, the Corvair Houston caravan made it safely to the H.O.T. hotel, the Comfort Inn, in Burnet, Texas by Friday afternoon just as the rain finally subsided and left us with a double rainbow that seemed to promise, "No more rain."

On Saturday morning, without a drop of rain, we had our H.O.T. car show at the Burnet Municipal Airport, one mile from downtown Burnet, and home of the Commemorative Air Force Museum, Highland Lakes Squadron. Originally known as the

Confederate Air Force, the organization is dedicated to the preservation and restoration of World War Two vintage airplanes. The museum features several WWII airplanes, and authentic artifacts including firearms from Germany, Japan, and the United States, as well as uniforms, helmets, and photos. We saw on display the serious sacrifices our soldiers, seamen, and airmen made to make our world safe. In the hangar were several flight-worthy planes: a 1944 C-47B Skytrain transport, the "Bluebonnet Belle; a 1944 advanced trainer, SNJ T6 Texan; a 1939 primary trainer, PT-19; and a 1946 liaison aircraft and personnel carrier, L-17 Navion. We also had the pleasure of seeing one of the fastest and most famous fighter planes of WWII, a P-51 Mustang fighter, take off with a roar that you had to be there to appreciate. What a sound! To get some idea of what it's like, go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IhgZ7opXci4>.

Another vintage air-

craft, a beautifully restored 1947 Cessna 195 Businessliner. Because of its with a seven-cylinder radial engine, it has a wider fuselage and is noticeably larger inside than other Cessnas. The owner was giving rides during the show, and several of our members took advantage of the opportunity to ride in that relatively powerful vintage plane. Mike Tidwell, Ed Walsh, and Todd Hasfjord described their flight as a "great experience."

Following the show, two road Cruises were available. One was an 87-mile one-way trip to the city of Llano, and the other was to the Longhorn Caverns. We went on the shorter trip because my navigator, Betty, thought someone said "Longhorn Taverns" instead of "Longhorn Caverns", and she was somewhat disappointed when we arrived at a cave. On the other hand, she was happy to have discovered Shiner Bock at the previous evening's welcome, thanks to the hospitality of those Oklahoma

Rearview Mirror

by Jon Protteau



Continued from Page 3

people whose company we always enjoy. The drive through the hill country was even better than we had expected because the return of some decent rainfall had brought out the wildflowers that had been somewhat dormant during the recent years of drought. Driving a Corvair convertible with the top down and the dual exhaust burbling up and down and around the hills resonated with the take-off that P-51 Mustang earlier in the day, and that was my Walter Mitty moment.

The catered dinner by The Highlander Restaurant was conveniently held at the Comfort Inn's banquet hall, and it was excellent; the food was both delicious and plentiful. And after the dinner, the presentation of Awards along with numerous door prizes and a 50/50 raffle were held.

Corvair Houston was recognized for several nicely-done Corvairs: in the Early Closed category, Bruce Parker's '61 Monza coupe was awarded 3rd place, with 2nd place going to Jim Watkins' '63

Monza coupe. Both cars are bright and white. The Late Open 3rd place award went to Todd Hasfjord's blue '66 Monza in spite of a damaged rear quarter from a blown tire on the way to H.O.T.; the 1st place award went to Greg Wrobleske's green machine, an excellent '65 Monza convertible which was long overdue for recognition. The Forward Control category found 1st place awarded to Ed Murphy's beautiful blue '65 Greenbrier.

Other awards of interest: the Long Distance Award went to Tim Shortle who drove his 1969 Corvair Monza, an unusual all-original California car: a radio/delete three-speed manual with 27,000 actual miles, from Durango, Colorado. It is an 860 or 872 mile drive, according to Google Maps. A long haul in a 50-year-old car, even if it is a Corvair.

David Brown received 1st Place in the Work-in-Progress category for his Rampside, which looks like the "before" photos in an album, but actually runs and drives

very well, thank you.

Kudos to the people like David Brown and others who have taken pains to rescue Corvairs to keep them from the scrap yard and put them back on the road so that people like yours truly, whose mechanical aptitude approaches absolute zero, can find one to drive.

After the Awards presentation, some of us had the opportunity to play a Dominos game called "Chicken Foot" along with another version called "Mexican Trains" with Matt and Kim Feehery patiently teaching it to us. Waynette Clarke's father, Waymon Worsham, was seriously adept at this game. Others could be found shooting pool or hanging-out in the Banquet Hall just visiting. Corvair people are definitely a sociable bunch.

The next morning, after a leisurely breakfast, we formed up our column and followed the Tidwells on a different route home. Mike led us around the north end of the Austin area through Georgetown, and granted

that we weren't driving in a deluge of biblical proportions this time, but it was a huge improvement over the south side. Mike found a route through Hearne and Bryan/College Station that cut hours off our travel time by avoiding the construction and traffic in the Austin area.

The 19th was another terrific H.O.T., this time by the Austin group, The Lone Star Corvair Club. Many thanks to Leslie Whalen, Dave Brown, Keith Crippen, Gary Malicoat, and all of the people who made it a great time for everyone. If you missed this H.O.T. be sure to attend the next one.

As I write May's article, I am getting Old Blue cleaned out and ready for Corvair Houston's trip to the annual Cameron Dewberry Festival and Antique Car Show, in Dec Watkins' hometown area.

Driving through monsoon rains on the way to Burnet for revealed a few leaks in the windshield of Old Blue, so we decided to get it sealed-up at Demo's Automotive before the trip on May 16.

HEART OF TEXAS 2015 in Burnet



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.



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



For Sale: 1963 Monza Sedan
 1963 four door with very cold (Tidwell) A/C Asking \$7000.00 Phone is 281 324-1617 or e-mail thenews2me@yahoo.com
 Jerry Miller

TREASURY REPORT

REPORT AS OF APRIL 30, 2015	
Beginning Balance	\$6,220.21
Receipts	
Deposits (Auction)	\$164.31
Subtotal	\$6,384.52
Withdrawals:	\$527.97
Ending Balance	\$5,856.55

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.



For Sale: 1965 Monza Convertible
 \$10,000. Contact Dave Pyle at 713-464-6717 or Dap8@comcast.net if interested.

the Corvair
Houston**Bulletin Board****Happy Birthday To:**

Jeanelle Moser		May 4
John Spenn		May 17
Madee McCullough		May 22
Kay Freeman		May 23
Matt Feehery		May 24
Jo Ann Miller		May 24
Ray Rosenbaum		May 27
Fred Mahler		May 27

Happy Anniversary To:

Geary & Deborah Grimes	32 years	May 13
Ron & Linda Holter	9 years	May 23
Matt & Kim Feehery	31 years	May 26

FOR SALE by Tony Pomponio

Four windows (untinted) for an early convertible, an NOS early convertible top with the zippered back window and many other early parts, Cash only, please.

**For Sale: 1966 Monza Sedan**

Kelly Finley has decided to sell her 1966 Monza Sedan. Asking price is \$12,000 – see attached appraisal with all the details. If interested, email Kelly at kellyscats@hotmail.com or call 281-615-9522.

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
May 16th	Dewberry Fest	Cameron, TX	D. Watkins
May 22nd	Club Meeting	Party Barn	E. Walsh
May 30th	TUNA	Tidwells home	M. Tidwell
June 1st	Board Meeting	Fuddruckers 1960	E. Walsh
June 19th	Club meeting	TBA	E. Walsh
June 23-27	CORSA Conv.	Knoxville, TN	E. Walsh

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

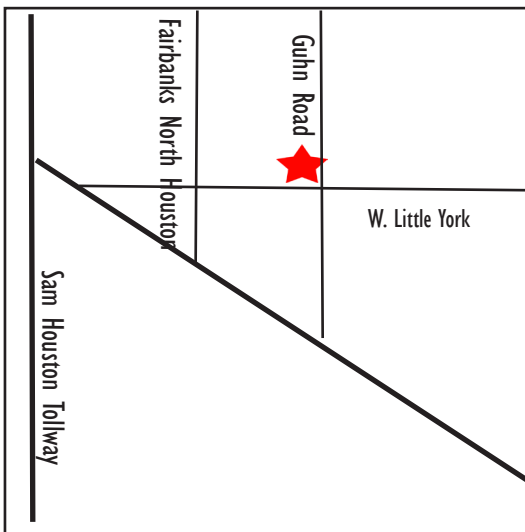
Deliver to:



Corvair Aviators at HOT 2015 in Burnet, TX

**CLUB MEETING TO BE
 HELD ON FRIDAY
 MAY 22ND 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