

# Corvair Houston Newsletter



VOLUME 42 ISSUE 6

JUNE 2016

This month: Club Meeting on Friday, June 17th and  
Ship Channel Tour on Saturday, June 18th



## Great Turnout at the May Club Meeting

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# Driver's Seat

by Mike Tidwell



Hey y'all! I see sunlight and its about time. It seems like we are drowning in rain and flooding

I hope everyone is safe and dry. If you know of anyone in our Corvair Houston family that was hit by the flood water please let me know or one of our Board Members so we can see if there are any needs we can help with.

Because of the Texas heat we will be moving the monthly club meeting to Hickory Hollow Res-

taurant at 8038 Fallbrook Drive, Houston, TX 77064 until October when it starts to cool down. They have given us the use of the upstairs again this year.

On June 18th we will be touring the Ship Channel of Houston for those who signed up.

If you signed up and can not make it please let me know because we have more people that want to go then we have reservations for.

We will be meeting

for breakfast at Melba's Country Kitchen at 10840 Beaumont Highway around 8.00 a.m. for a country breakfast.

On July 16th Brenham is hosting Hot Nights Cool Tunes the band Texas Unlimited Band (texasunlimited-band.com) will be playing.

They can play country, they can play 80's music, they can play current hits, and they can play old school rock 'n roll.

There will be more

details as we get closer to the date about a caravan going to Brenham.

On August 6th Kurt and Pam Massey hve offered to open their lovely house and pool for a pool party.

More detail will also follow as we get closer to the date. I can't wait for a pool party.

Hope to see you at the meeting and drive your Corvair.



# Rearview Mirror

by Howard King



The May club meeting was held at The Party Barn with a good number in attendance. I believe there were also nine or ten Corvairs present. We also got to take a look at Greg Wrobleske's latest acquisition, a white with blue interior Spyder. With Jerry Kelley's help they cleaned up the remaining work needed in what seemed to be a short time. Matt and Kim Feehery put together a sumptuous meal which we all enjoyed. Please take an opportunity to thank them for their hospitality. After the business at hand and much talking about the fabulous looking Corvairs in the parking lot Mike Tidwell gave a technical session on synchronizing carburetors. The subject car volunteered was an

early with air conditioning, so extra care was taken to remove the condenser unit and set it to the side. Might I also mention that Mike is always soliciting tech topics for the meetings and there is a chance your car could be the next recipient. There is a richness of know how through out the club from which we can all benefit.

There were also sign up sheets passed for the events coming up. One of them came on Sunday after the meeting. I heard that 13 were signed up for lunch and the museum tour.

Lunch at the Super Burger in Magnolia with the Buick club was followed by The Gullo Auto Museum tour. When I say Super Burger, I mean it. The table next to us

ordered one. It contains two pounds of meat and is close to a foot in diameter.

After lunch we met Tony Gullo and he told us how he got started collecting cars and how his collection has grown to what we saw. There are 225 cars in the building that contains the museum, but there are other buildings with more cars. Due to restrictions pictures taken inside were only for personal use. No posting allowed. To say Auto Museum you would think that there be cars to see, and there are, but much, much more than that. Well worth the admission fee.

His collection spans from helicopters to soda fountains. There is a little of everything to see. Barbara was interested one of the cars she saw and

pointed me to the room where it was displayed, but I had to find which one. When we met again I guessed that it was a nice Packard, but no, she wanted the 1881 Mercedes brass era car, which more resembled a buggy with a single cylinder engine and a large flywheel. In 1886 the motor horsepower was increased to 2HP and would hit a top speed of 10 MPH.

Tony was a gracious host and I was amazed that he remembered meeting Gary Buckner (Buck) some 10 years earlier and even asked about his daughter. Now that is one phenomenal memory and it shows his personality and character. A big thank you to Matt Feehery for arranging this tour.



# A Quest for Corvair Heads

by Dave Keseian



It all started over a pair of Corvair engine heads.

As many of you know at this year's Heart of Texas gathering I blew a head gasket.

The good fortune is Tom from the San Antonio club was there and said he could get a set done pretty quickly. If you've heard about Tom's heads, they are becoming highly prized, so it was a pretty quick decision to ask him to make me a pair.

I sent the money just a few days after H.O.T. and Mike Tidwell and I made plans to drive to SA to retrieve them. Unfortunately we never could find a weekend that worked for both of us.

Which brings me to the week of May 23-29.

I texted Mike on Wednesday to see if he wanted to make the drive on the 28th. Mike was going to visit a friend in GA so he was not going.

Since we had gone 5 weeks without retrieving them I talked to Tom and made the decision to go on Saturday. One issue was that Tom was heading to Killeen that Saturday

morning to go look at a late model. I told him that I could arrive before he left.

It was agreed that I would arrive around 6:30 Saturday morning. That meant I had a 3 hour drive from Montgomery to San Antonio.

I currently live in Lufkin. So my plan was to drive to Montgomery Friday afternoon and sleep there and wake up early and head to Tom's house Saturday morning.

That plan was changed on Thursday night the water started coming down.

I had been watching the radar on my PC. There was a line that was the deep purple running from up north of the Brenham area down to just south of Tomball.

The line was so tight just south of Tomball. Above the line was severe rain, below it almost nothing and the line was only moving in one direction. East. It was running over my place in Montgomery.

Then Connie called. Water was coming in the house. Damn. Again.

Her next call was from at the gate to the property.

I asked her what she was doing there. She said she was not sure what to do. I asked her if she planned to sleep on the street? Her answer was no. I then said that if that is the case then she needs to start driving out of there.

She then said to me the gate is open. I could not understand. Why not shut the gate? She said she was afraid of the water. I asked her if she was in danger. She said no. If that's the case then close the gate. She didn't want to, but she did. The water ran up and into her boots.

The next call was about 20-25 minutes later. I asked her, where are you? Her answer, still the same street.

I couldn't believe it. I asked her why. She said water was running across the road. I told her to drive through it. She didn't want to.

I was looking at the radar. There was nothing but more water coming that way and it had hours to go.

I told her that whatever water was there was only going to grow. She needed to either drive through it

or call 911 and let them get her out of there.

She reluctantly drove through it. She made it to her daughters up on FM105 in Montgomery and was safe for the night.

At that point I had no real idea of what was going on in that area. I assumed it was heavy rain but that I could get over there on Friday. And that was my plan.

I told my boss about the house Friday morning and he agreed to let me head out around lunchtime.

I got home in Lufkin in a driving rain. I didn't want to drive in rain and the forecast showed only partly cloudy in Lufkin around 1 and the same in Montgomery around 2. It then stopped raining at my place in Lufkin around 12:30 so I headed out.

*Editor's note - due to space limitations the rest of the story is posted on the club website. Please go to [www.corvairhouston.com](http://www.corvairhouston.com) to read the full account of Dave's experience. It is most certainly an exciting account of the recent flooding in our area.*



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# Calendar of Events

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## JUNE 2016

17	FRIDAY AT 6:30 P.M.	CLUB MEETING	HICKORY HOLLOW
18	SATURDAY AT 8:00 A.M.	SHIP CHANNEL BOAT TOUR	MELBA'S DINER

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## JULY 2016

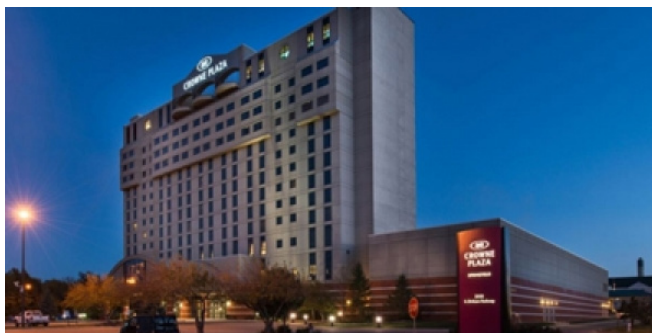
15	FRIDAY AT 6:30 P.M.	CLUB MEETING	HICKORY HOLLOW
16	SATURDAY EVENING	HOT NIGHTS/COOL TUNES	BRENHAM

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## AUGUST 2016

6	SATURDAY AT 3:00 P.M.	POOL PARTY	MASSEY'S HOME
19	FRIDAY AT 6:30 P.M.	CLUB MEETING	HICKORY HOLLOW
20	SATURDAY AT 8:00 A.M.	LONE STAR FLIGHT MUSEUM	TELWINK DINER/GALVESTON

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The 2016 CORSA International Convention will take place in Springfield, Illinois on July 12 through July 16. Join us for “Corvairs on the Prairie.” The host hotel is Crown Plaza Springfield, 217/529-7777, but it is sold out. Alternate lodging: Comfort Suites, 217/753-4000, \$99; Hilton Garden Inn, 217/529-7171, \$99; Residence Inn and Suites, 217/527-1100, \$124; Holiday Inn Express, 217/615-5057, \$99. For more information on the 2016 Convention, visit the 2016 Convention website.

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# Bulletin Board

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## 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](http://www.corvair.com)



### For Sale: 1966 Corsa \$15,000

Let's keep this one in the club. Costa Kouzounis is selling his Corsa. Contact either Mike Tidwell (281-748-4576) or Costa (713-526-3781) for more information.

## TREASURY REPORT

REPORT AS OF MAY 31, 2016

Beginning Balance	\$4,529.28
Receipts	
Deposits (Dues, Club Car)	<u>\$2,296.67</u>
Subtotal	\$6,825.95
Withdrawals:	<u>\$360.00</u>
Ending Balance	\$6,465.95

## Mark your Calendar!

### HOT 2017 - KERRVILLE, TX

Hosted by Corvair Houston

April 21-23, 2017

Y. O. Ranch Hotel

[www.yoranchotel.com](http://www.yoranchotel.com)

More details to be provided in the coming months

## Tech Session Ideas?

Have an interesting technical project you worked on recently? Need to see a technical demonstration of a procedure that will help you with your restoration or repair project? Your Corvair Houston Officers are looking for ideas for technical demonstration sessions for our monthly club meetings. These technical sessions can be helpful for those of us restoring or performing maintenance on our Corvairs.

If you have an idea, please notify Mike Tidwell at [matidwell323@att.net](mailto:matidwell323@att.net)

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

Kim Feehery	June 1
Greg Fox	June 1
Ruben Ruiz	June 2
Richard Jones	June 4
Gail Pomponio	June 8
Suzie Protteau	June 17
Gail Brown	June 23
Waynette Clarke	June 23
Deborah Grimes	June 28
Greg Wrobleske	June 29

**Happy Anniversary To:**

Bob & Magi Tucker	60 years	June 6
Lloyd & Claudeann Jannise	13 years	June 12
Jon & Betty Protteau	44 years	June 17
Scott & Naoko Brittin	44 years	June 24
Andrew & Kristen Brennan	17 years	June 26
Dave & Gail Brown	42 years	June 29
John & Katherine Spenn	42 years	June 29

**Gasoline Tip**

With gas prices going up again, it can be useful to shop around for the cheapest prices in your area. The website at <http://autos.msn.com/everyday/gas-stations.aspx> allows you to enter your zip code and will provide the prices for gas at all the stations near you. The data is updated daily.

**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](http://www.corvair.org)

Don't forget to join Corvair Houston on Facebook. You will see reminders of events and meetings along with photos. You will be able to post your own photos, questions about our club or your Corvair. You will also be able to post any parts and Corvairs that you might have for sale. Contact Dee Watkins if any questions.



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

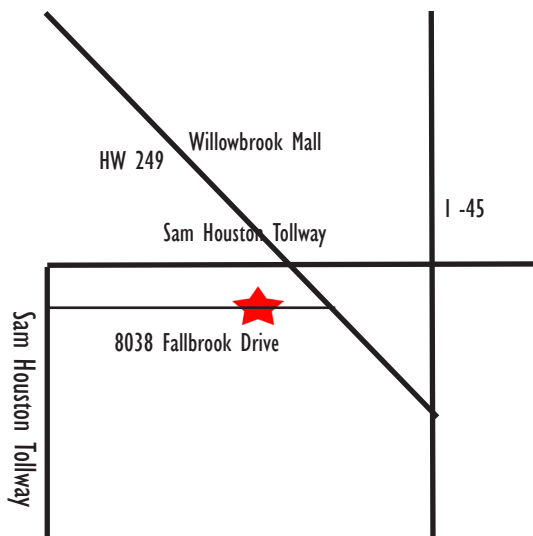
Deliver to:



Gullo Museum Tour - yes that is Jerry Kelley

## CLUB MEETING TO BE HELD ON FRIDAY JUNE 17TH AT HICKORY HOLLOW

Map to the Meeting Location  
 8038 Fallbrook Drive, Houston, TX 77064



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.

2015 Officers:

President	Mike Tidwell	281-748-4576
Vice President	Richard Jonec	832-559-1629
Secretary	Howard King	832-687-8251
Treasurer	Audrey Tidwell	832-434-1154
Director	Alan Dunlap	281-203-9977
Director	Ken Boysen	281-831-5049
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