

Corvair Houston Newsletter



VOLUME 43 ISSUE 6

JUNE 2017

This month: Club Meeting on Friday, June 16th at the
Party Barn & Bowling on Saturday, June 17th



Rockdale TX Car Show on June 3rd

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by Richard Jones

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by Betty Proteau

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Driver's Seat

| by Richard Jonec



Well summer is here! With Memorial Day behind us, we all look toward summer, the summer driving season and Corvair Houston events. We have some great events in store for the summer. One of the enjoyable parts of the summer months is all the legendary motorsports events that take place during this period.

Memorial Day weekend is a great kick off to some legendary Motorsport events. You have the Monaco Grand Prix, the Indy 500, and the World 600 NASCAR race all taking place in one day. Monaco, on the European continent, and the others two in the good Old USA are great entertainment which makes for an exciting Sunday. This year's Indy 500 was truly a dash for the cash with Takuma Sato winning over Helio Castroneves. At Monaco, Ferrari came out on top with a 1-2 finish with Sebastian Vettel taking the win over his teammate Kimi Raikkonen. Finally, Austin Dillion, driving the famous #3 Chevrolet once Dale Earnhardt's ride,

took the night race win at Charlotte Motor Speedway. Going into June, the Texas Motor Speedway hosts the Indy cars during the second weekend of June. There will be more excitement the following weekend for the race around the clock at the 24 Hours of LeMans in France. It will be exciting to watch the Chevy, Ford, and Ferrari battle continue at this historical venue.

So why so much talk about Motorsports? What relevance does this have with Corvair Houston? Well the Corvair truly has a Motorsport heritage. The Stinger Corvair carried Jerry Thompson to a SCCA D/Production championship in 1967. That started the flood of Corvairs being entered in various motorsport events in the ensuing years of SCCA club racing. The late model Corvair, when properly prepared, is an excellent platform for participating at motorsport events. The rear engine layout lends itself to a well-balanced, high performance vehicle similar to the famous Ger-

man make Porsche. The early platform cars, as the Fitch Sprint earlies, were very competitive in their own right. John Fitch tamed the rear swing axle models with his trick suspension parts and tuned engines, including a super charger option a year before the Spyder Turbo hit the showroom floor.

The Corvair has an undeniable racing heritage and was truly a driver's car. A properly specked out Vair would give the Porsche 911 fits. Consider this, when the 1966 911 S came out it was rated at 158 Hp and a 1966 Corvair Corsa Turbo was rated at 180 Hp. A base Stinger was 160 Hp and the Stage II Stinger was rated at 190 Hp in street trim. Note both of these legendary rear engine cars were equipped with air cooled flat six power plants. Alas, the Porsche continued to be developed into the legendary car it is today while GM pulled plug on further development of the Corvair and killed the Corsa model after the 1966 model year, as the performance minded

buyer keyed in on the new for 1967 Camaro and Tri-Power Corvette. This left it to Fitch and Yenka to carry the banner for the performance Corvair.

As Corvair owners, we have a motorsport heritage to uphold for the marque and what better way than to drive our cars at a competition event. There are many who have participated at track or autocross events over the years but it has been a few years since the club was involved in an organized driving / competition event. The last one we organized was the event at MSR in Angleton in 2013. Well the wait is over! The Board agreed to support the upcoming SCCA autocross event on July 9th at the Houston Police Driving Academy. We will be able to enter our cars in our own group to provide us the ability to compete against ourselves and possibly get additional track time and instruction for participants that are not familiar with autocross driving techniques. Please go to this [Continued on Page 4](#)

Rearview Mirror

| by Betty Protteau



Corvair Houston had its May 19th meeting at the Feehery's Party Barn near the Sam Houston/Beltway 8 Toll road and Hwy 290W area. The club memberships always look forward to coming together at this wonderfully large facility. Mike Feehery, brother of club member Matt Feehery, generously opens his ingenious facility for the enjoyment of Corvair Houston members. Not only does he often provide an incredible feast, but the Feehery Party Barn also houses several antique vehicles including a '50s Chevy truck, an early Buick Riviera, and a lavender Corvair besides a couple of 4 X 4 hunting vehicles. Everyone especially enjoys checking out the humongous wall map of the United States consisting of vintage brews from around the country.

Sandra and Greg Wroblewski drove a brand new sporty 2018 C-HR to the May 19th claiming the AC was not working in their Corvairs. However, braving the heat Mark Clarke came from Sugar Land, Alan Dunlap from Tomball, Fred Mahler

from Bellville, Matt Feehery from Houston, and coming from Magnolia Ricki and Sally Jannise all drove their classic Corvairs with or without AC. Of course, the rest of us drove our water pumpers without shame or guilt as we enjoyed our AC.

The highlight of the evening was the recognition of members Jim and Dee Watkins who are leaving our area and heading north to Idaho this month. Words escape me and could never begin to describe how much this couple means

to every single member of Corvair Houston. They have touched everyone's heart and have unselfishly given of themselves for every single event with the club for the past decade. They have taken upon themselves to initiate so many incredible special events for Corvair Houston that I cannot begin to include these in this space. I will especially always remember the enormous amount of history I learned from them regarding our Armed Forces at the airport museum tours in Galveston and Hous-

ton, the helicopter rides at Hobby and Hook airports, the singing Elvis at their Anniversary celebration, and the countless T-shirts designed & produced by Dec. Their contagious enthusiasm for showing us how to have fun and sharing their lives with us will be truly missed but never forgotten. And, we will expect them to come to our get-togethers in the winter months when Idaho is freezing and covered with snow! At the May 19th meeting, we were delighted to meet their granddaughter, Sabrina, from California, and their friends Bod & Carol Spradling and Dave and Elonda Sullivan.

Corvair Houston also welcomed new members Vince & Pam Zinnante driving their 1966 Aztec Bronze Monza convertible. Also attending was Aidan Barker (age 15) from Hockley Texas who recently purchased a 1964 Monza coupe which he hopes to bring to a meeting or event soon.



Best wishes to Jim & Dee Watkins



Continued from Page 3

DRIVERS SEAT ARTICLE

link for additional information about this SCCA sponsored event. <http://www.houscca.com/solo/>

The cost is very reasonable for a fun, exciting day of racing. There are several options. You can become a SCCA member if you plan to attend more than several events. Pre-registered SCCA members pay only \$30 dollars per driver, non-members pay \$45. If you are on the fence and not sure if you want to attend, you have the option of late registration at the event for \$55 as a non-member and \$45 for SCCA members. Remember you can share a car so there can

be multiple drivers per car.

Please read through all the SCCA information as safety comes first and some protective gear is required, such as a current SNELL rated helmet. Motorcycle helmets are permitted as well. Also note, there is a tech inspection at the event and your car will be inspected for meeting basic safety requirements. The car must have seat belts, proper operating brakes, and no loose equipment in the engine compartment or trunk. This is to ensure that the car will be safe to operate on the course. At the next club meeting, I will provide a list of

items to review, prior to the event, to insure you pass the safety inspection and allow you to focus on driving the car and not last minute thrashing to get your car ready.

To help defray the cost of the autocross event, the Club will support the purchase of three helmets. These helmets will belong to the club and will be on loan at this event. This will allow the Corvair Houston participants to share a helmet if you do not have one. If additional helmets are needed the SCCA will be able to provide loaners as well. There will be additional information at this month's meeting con-

cerning this exciting event.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for Saturday afternoon the June 17 as we plan to have our Corvair Houston Bowling meetup at the AMF Willow Lanes 19102 TX-249, Houston, TX 77070. We participated at this venue several years back and had lots of fun. Plan on fun and friendly competition with the other members! Looking forward to seeing you all there. So get your cars prepared for the July Autocross at the Houston Police Academy.



Calendar of Events

JUNE 2017

16	FRIDAY	CLUB MEETING	PARTY BARN
17	SATURDAY	BOWLING	AMF WILLOW FM 249

JULY 2017

9	SUNDAY	SCCA AUTOCROSS	HPA PROVING GROUNDS
21	FRIDAY	CLUB MEETING	LOCATION TBA
22	SATURDAY	HOT NIGHTS / COOL TUNES	BRENHAM SQUARE

AUGUST 2017

18	FRIDAY	CLUB MEETING	LOCATION TBA
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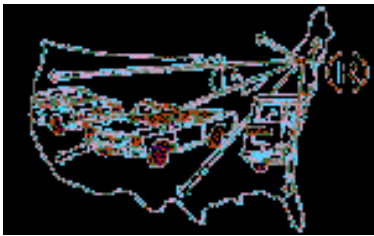
SEPTEMBER 2017

15	FRIDAY	CLUB MEETING	LOCATION TBA
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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

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 one of your officers listed on page 8 of this newsletter. Have a project to present? Presentation assistance is available. Email any submissions to newsletter editor at mwclarke01@hotmail.com

TREASURY REPORT

REPORT AS OF MAY 31, 2017

Beginning Balance	\$8,886.13
Receipts	
Merchandise Sales	\$40.00
Club Dues	\$136.67
Subtotal	<u>\$9,062.80</u>
Web Hosting fee	(\$300.00)
Clun Meeting Food expense	(\$162.80)
Other expenses	(\$207.20)
Bank Fee	(\$15.00)
	<u>\$8,377.80</u>

**2013-2018
Main
Catalog**

clark's Corvair Parts®

400 mohawk trail
shelburne falls, mass. 01370

YOUR CUSTOMER
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Over 15,000 different parts in stock!

<p>*ORDER MACHINE 24 hour 413-625-2558 *TOLL FREE order machine (USA & Canada) 888-267-8247 (888-COR-VAIR)</p>	<p>MAIN PHONE 413-625-9776 Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (E.S.T.)</p> <p>EMAIL - clarks@corvair.com INTERNET - www.corvair.com</p>	<p>*FAX-24 hour 413-625-8498 *TOLL FREE (USA & Canada) 888-625-8498</p>
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the Corvair
Houston**Bulletin Board****Happy Birthday To:**

Kim Feehery		June 1
Greg Fox		June 1
Ruben Ruiz		June 2
Greg Riley		June 3
Richard Jonc		June 4
Gail Pomponio		June 17
Gail Brown		June 23
Waynette Clarke		June 23
Deborah Grimes		June 28
Greg Wobleske		June 29

Happy Anniversary To:

Bob & Magi Tucker	61 years	June 6
Jon & Betty Protteau	45 years	June 17
Scott & Naoko Brittin	45 years	June 24
Andrew & Kristen Brennan	18 years	June 26
Dave & Gail Brown	43 years	June 29
John & Katherine Spenn	43 years	June 29

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!**Aidan Barker**

Hockley, TX
1964 Monza Coupe

David & Diane Pederson

Seabrook, TX
1964 Spyder Convertible

For Sale: 1963 Monza 900 Coupe
1964 rear suspension and 1965 140 ci engine; 4 Speed with cold AC; Runs great! interior like new, but paint is starting to show its age. Has won many awards over the years. Contact Jim Watkins for more information at 979-824-6225 or by email at sidewinder67@msn.com

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
 13102 N. Decker Drive
 Magnolia, TX 77355-8461

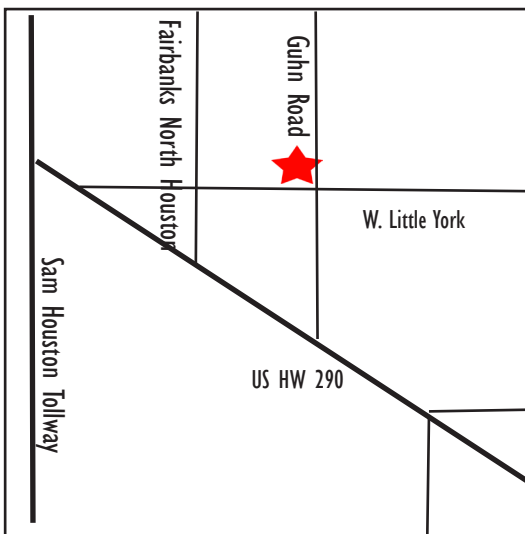
Deliver to:



Todd Hasfjord at the Otto's Car show in Sugar Land

**CLUB MEETING TO BE
 HELD ON FRIDAY
 JUNE 16TH AT THE
 FEEHERRY PARTY BARN**

Map to the Meeting Location
 6914 Guhn Road Houston Texas 77040



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.

2017 Officers:

President	Richard Jonec	832-559-1629
Vice President	Ken Boysen	281-831-5049
Secretary	Betty Protteau	936-520-2395
Treasurer	Richard Jannise	281-259-2256
Director	Ed Stock	281-413-3478
Director	Howard King	832-687-8251
Director	Sally Jannise	281-259-2256

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