

Corvair Houston Newsletter



VOLUME 43 ISSUE 10

OCTOBER 2017

This month: Heritage Day on October 20-22
No regular club meeting in October



Larry's Cars Show on October 6th

Driver's Seat
by Richard Jones

Rear View Mirror
by Betty Proteau

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Driver's Seat

| by Richard Jonec



Did you know that Carroll Shelby had his hand with the Corvair early in his car manufacturing career? Well he certainly did when Chevrolet conducted a 24 hr endurance test at the now defunct Riverside Raceway in CA. In late 1961 Chevrolet brought in some hired guns like Gurney, Shelby and even a famed drag race by the name of Chrisman to put a pair of Corvair Monza's through their paces and ran the heck out them to prove to the automotive press and car buying public that their wonderful relatively new rear engine car could cut the mustard in a grueling 24 hr. enduro. Both were 102 Hp high performance versions of the then new Monza model. One was slightly modified with aftermarket performance equipment and the other was relatively stock with the exception of the optional handling package RPO 690. Well these Corvairs certainly proved a point and the rest is history as the cars covered 1549 miles on Riversides famed road

course over a 24 hr period. Want more details read on as the March 1962 issue of Sports Car Graphic covered the event in full detail.

The Corvair was truly a dual purpose machine. This was a time where you could drive to the track run the car as hard as possible and drive it home with a possible class win. The adage with the car manufacturers was race on Sunday and Sell on Monday could not be truer. Although, Chevrolet was abiding by the AMA racing ban during that period it was events like these and privateer efforts through key GM dealerships and performance aftermarket companies that really showed how superior the rear engine rear drive platform was to the standard front engine rear drive platform.

We still have the opportunity to race these cars at various organized events today. As a matter of fact you have the chance next weekend October 21st to autocross your car in Mineral Wells, TX. The North Texas Corvair Association (NTCA) is run-

ning their annual Heritage Days event that kicks off Friday evening the 20th and finishes on the 22nd with a Sunday Breakfast.

You won't want to miss this annual fall event. It is also round two of Corvair Houston's Autocross championship. There will be several groups departing from the Houston area some plan to leave Friday AM some plan to leave mid day or late afternoon.

The first event of the month was Larry Keast's Annual Car Party. It was held Thursday the 5th at his Venture Tech and Torque Engineering manufacturing facility. There were several Corvair Houston members in attendance. Matt Feehrey brought his Corsa as well as Alan Dunlap brought his Meatball numbered '64. Guy and Pat Bobkoff were also in attendance and I brought the only other German air cooled car in attendance. The theme this year was Bonneville Salt Flat racers. The Feature car was a 207 mph record holding 1953 Studebaker. The body is nearly stock with

the exception of front and rear spoilers and has a blown 830 Hp Studebaker engine. There were other racers that shared their Bonneville stories as well, pretty amazing stuff. These guys truly have a need for speed. After the hosted fajita dinner we had the chance to walk the parking lot as it was full of other vintage rides that included a '34 Chevrolet Sedan, as well as 60's and early 70's muscle cars. Several owners were given the opportunity to talk about their rides and share some great stories about their cherished vehicles. The owner of the '34 Chevrolet just completed a 2400 mile round trip, that must have been an adventure. Larry capped of the event with a tour of his manufacturing facility that serves the Energy markets. Certainly a fun event for all so plan to make it next year and we certainly thank Larry for hosting this awesome event.

Studebaker firing up at NRG several years back.

Our second event of the month was at Mike [Continued on Page 4](#)

Rearview Mirror

by Betty Protteau



The Corvair Houston board members had their monthly meeting on Thursday, October 5th at the Brick House Tavern + Tap off of highway 249 at Greens Road. Present for the meeting were Sally & Ricki Jannise, Greg Wrobleske, Alan Dunlap, Howard King, Mark Clarke who drives all of the way from Sugar Land but still manages to always get to the meeting before Betty & Jon Protteau, who live much closer. And, of course Richard Jones, Corvair Houston's President was present. The topics for discussion at the meeting included planning for the 2017 Auto

Rama traditionally held during the Thanksgiving holiday week. This year, Nga & Todd Hasfjord are chairing this event and are planning on having all Forward Control vehicles on display. Well, this is a 'before' picture of our Jefferson Greenbrier.

The equipment for Auto Rama is amiably stored at Sally & Ricki Jannise's house will be loaded onto a trailer on the Sunday before Thanksgiving and the set-up at the George R. Brown Convention center will take place on the Wednesday morning before Turkey Day. Abled-bodied men and women are needed to

help with these activities, of course. Another discussion at the meeting on October 5th included the Corvair Heritage Days sponsored by the North Texas Corvair Club coming up the weekend of October 20th through the 22nd in Mineral Wells this year. The discussion also included reminding everyone of the Niftee 50ees Halloween night usually has over 500 cars and is totally a 'hoot'. We need to buy tickets, however, as soon as possible! It should be noted that everyone in Corvair Houston is always welcome and encouraged to join in these board meetings. New faces and

new ideas are part of what keeps Corvair Houston such an outstanding and active car club.

On Saturday, October 7th there was an auction at the home of Audrey and Mike Tidwell. Ed Murphy, Mike Tidwell, and others sold off their Corvair parts, tools, gear, and paraphernalia. My husband came home with everything from a tow bar to Corvair bits and pieces. Audrey Tidwell and Sally Jannise provided an excellent lunch, as usual, for the ravenous bargain hunters. Many members brought a side dish so no one went home hungry!



The Protteau's Jefferson Greenbrier



Tidwell & Murphy Parts Auction

Continued from Page 2

DRIVERS SEAT ARTICLE

Tidwell's house on Saturday the 7th. Mike hosted a parts sale and auction along with Ed Murphy. Mike and Ed have accumulated tons of Corvair parts over the years and let them go to the highest bidders. There were 15 or so members in attendance and it provided a great opportunity to get parts for your early or late and at a great discount to market value. Ken Boysen our Vice President bought the lions share as he has two projects a '65 Corsa Turbo Convertible that he

wants to get back on the road as well as his 4 door early that needed some bits and pieces. I would say most walked away with whatever they needed to get their cars back on the road or just get those missing parts they need to keep their car road worthy.

If you did not attend you certainly missed out on getting some great parts. I was luckily enough to get some NOS bumper guards for my '66 Turbo Corsa as well as a much need wiring loom. Greg Wrobleke scored a NOS

vintage 8 Track player with FM tuner, what a conversation piece. Mike and Ed were very generous as 20% of the auctions proceeds went to the club. If you could not make last Saturday get with Mike or Ed as they still had a trailer load of parts left that they want to move to make room for other projects. The board will decide what to do with these proceeds, but it will be a charitable contribution in the name of Corvair Houston and the Tidwell's and Murphy's.

Please make note that there will not be a monthly meeting for Corvair Houston this month due to the conflicting schedule with the Heritage Days event in Mineral Wells, TX. The regular scheduled Club meeting will resume at the Feehery Party Barn on Friday November 17th for the annual Pot Luck Thanksgiving Feast.

I hope to see y'all next Friday the 20th at the Host Hotel which is at the Holiday Inn Express in Mineral Wells, TX. Until then keep the engines revving.

Calendar of Events

OCTOBER 2017

20-22	FRIDAY - SUNDAY	HERITAGE DAY	MINERAL WELLS, TX
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NOVEMBER 2017

5	SATURDAY	SCCA AUTOCROSS	GRAND SPORT SPEEDWAY
17	FRIDAY	CLUB MEETING	PARTY BARN
23-26	THURSDAY-SUNDAY	AUTORAMA	BROWN CONV CENTER

DECEMBER 2017

9	SATURDAY	CHRISTMAS PARTY	JANNISE'S HOME
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Larry's Car Show on October 6th



Bulletin Board

1968 Corvair Solar Cavalier- 1 of only 10 or 20 (?) known to exist. \$6,000 (CH members only). List of Solar Automotive options:

- Fitch vinyl covered roof;
- Corsa 140hp/4sp power train;
- Fireball electronic ignition & Coil;
- Dual Weber Carburetors;
- HD suspension w/new Bilsteins;
- Mag Wheels (new tires);
- Camaro RS Tailights (w/VW back-up lights);
- Grant Wood Wheel;
- Trombone Exhaust;
- Quick Shift (Corsa?);
- 2" deep Oetinger aluminum Oil Pan;
- Racing mirrors;
- In Dash Tachometer;
- 4 Quartz Headlights;
- CD AM/FM Stereo The car runs strong & smooth.

There is no evidence of oil consumption, smoke or leaks. Please contact me for questions or details:

Dave Brown, 713-410-9595, Corvair69@gmail.com



CH Wants You!

Corvair Houston is always open to member submissions for articles to be printed in the newsletter. Articles can cover areas such as technical information, commentary, personal Corvair experiences, and restoration tips. Writing assistance is available. Call your editor at 281-217-8573. Email any submissions to mwclarke01@hotmail.com or snail mail to 1907 Iron Ridge, Sugar Land, TX 77478.

TREASURY REPORT

REPORT AS OF OCTOBER 3, 2017

Beginning Balance	\$8,383.22
Receipts	
T-shirt sales	<u>\$130.12</u>
Subtotal	\$8,513.34
Expenses	
J.J. Watt Foundation	\$250.00
Website hosting fee	\$39.99
Grill T-Shirt shipping	<u>\$36.72</u>
Ending Balance	<u>\$8,186.63</u>

Clark's Corvair Parts®

Our catalog lists over 15,000 parts for your Corvair. We carry engine parts, body panels, upholstery and much more! There are 1,000's of reproduced items available, pages of technical information and lots of other helpful hints. Check us out at www.corvair.com or call today to order a copy of our printed catalog. You will quickly see why we are the world's largest supplier of parts and all your other Corvair needs. Clark's - More than Parts!

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



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

Chuck House	Oct. 5
Shirlee Lapp	Oct. 8
Naolo Brittin	Oct. 11
Vince Zinnante	Oct. 14
Ronnie Riley	Oct. 16
Brice Bergesen	Oct. 18
David Brown	Oct. 19
Pat Bobkoff	Oct. 22
Ricki Jannise	Oct. 22
Ron Richburg	Oct. 24
Chrissy Murphy	Oct. 27
Karl James	Oct. 28
Zandra Keast	Oct. 30

Happy Anniversary To:

George & Shirlee Lapp	39 years	Oct. 3
Bruce & Vicki Eichenberg	7 years	Oct. 29
Chris & Lara Mallynn Langley	7 years	Oct. 30



High quality 100% cotton T-shirts available at <http://www.corvairhouston.etsy.com>. Order yours TODAY while supplies last!

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

THIS SPACE IS AVAILABLE FOR AT NO COST. Email your FOR SALE ADS and PARTS WANTED Ads to the Newsletter Editor at mwclarke01@hotmail.com

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

Deliver to:

NO CLUB MEETING
IN OCTOBER DUE TO
HERITAGE DAY IN
MINERAL WELLS ON
OCTOBER 20-22



Dave Brown's Ramp with 1 ton of railroad ties!!



Greg Fox using his Ramp to clear debris from Harvey



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 barbeques, 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