



# VAIRMAIL



January 2018    CORSA Chapter 921    Vol. 45 No. 01

## The President's Message:



*President Lorrie*

Happy New Years! 2018 is upon us. What are your plans for the New Year? Will you make some progress on your Corvair? Scott and Brett Club members are going to be sharing plans for the new year on some team approach to helping you with your cars

and getting them on the road. I'm hoping their enthusiasm will inspire you to possibly buddy up with others to get your pile of metal into a performing functional steel beauty.

Last year at this time we discussed at club meeting the "whys" of not meeting your car goals. 1. time 2. money 3. motivation 4. know-how.

We as a club have been working towards #3 and #4. To review the past couple years a little we have had garage workshops and tech talks. Tech talks cover some basic topic. Tune-ups with Paul, carburetors by Earl, were to find information by Larry, and much more. We plan to have a full schedule this year but would love your input to what you want to learn about or explore. Some of you are interested in building more powerful engines and we have offered a few tech sessions to address this. So here again your board needs your requests so we can help you with your goals. Some tech sessions to look forward to are Earl and Alternators/ starters, Tom Wright will share humorous DIY stories on several subject plus later in the year a talk on tires and Corvairs. Scott has been assembling a list of road preparation safety/ supplies, which he will share and lead a discussion on this topic.

*(Continued on page 5)*

## SDCC 2017 Christmas Party

We gathered at Casa Machado Mexican Restaurant at Montgomery Airport this year for our annual Holiday Party on December 10<sup>th</sup> at around 11am. It was well attended with at last count 38 members showing this year and 10 Corvairs including Ken Baldwin's Corvair powered 810 Cord.

We enjoyed a buffet style lunch with cheese enchiladas, beef fajitas, Mexican rice, refried beans and small rolled tacos?

After we had some lunch, Club President Lorrie Tustison handed out some certificates of appreciation for various members efforts over the past year.



We got a report in person from Rich Ernst and his recovery so far from his being hit on his motorcycle. Lyle Whitsett shared his progress on the restoration of his early convertible and getting it back on the road recently.

Christopher Hunt made up a batch of SDCC mugs which several members purchased. We took a nice group photo of the event and a lineup of Corvairs present. Back inside Lorrie led us in some table games and we mingled from there.

Thanks to those who brought toys for "Toys For Tots" and food for the less fortunate these holidays.

David Kerth

SAN DIEGO CORVAIR CLUB

The VAIRMAIL is published 12 times a year by the San Diego Corvair Club, PO Box 34682, San Diego, CA 92163 Visit our website at [WWW.sdcorvair.com](http://WWW.sdcorvair.com)

We welcome articles about Corvairs and Corvair people, as well as Corvair related Buy & Sell ads. Send them to Lorrie Tustison at: [Ltust@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Ltust@sbcglobal.net),

The San Diego Corvair Club was founded in 1973 and incorporated in 1978 as a non-profit California corporation to bring together people who own and/or appreciate 1960-69 Corvair cars, vans and pickup trucks. SDCC is Chapter 921 of the Corvair Society of America (CORSA), P.O. Box 607, Lemont, IL 60439-0607, On-line at [Corvair@corvair.org](mailto:Corvair@corvair.org)

**San Diego Corvair Club  
2016 Officers and Directors**

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**Upcoming Club Activities**

Jim Hoscher , Activities Vice President  
[jhoscher@cox.net](mailto:jhoscher@cox.net)

**San Diego Corvair Club meets 2nd Thursday of the month.** (details at the bottom of this page)

- January:**  
Run for the hills Julian Pie Co. Run January 27<sup>th</sup>
- February:**  
Valentine’s Day Celebration at Lorries and Larry’s new home
- March:**  
Chocolate Factory Run (Date TBD)
- April:**  
San Diego Corvair Car Show and Swap Meet  
Rainbow (Date TBD)

See pg. 6 for full details

*Support Your National  
Corvair Organization*



Many Corvair events, such as the National Convention, now require CORSA membership. Don’t let your membership lapse. And don’t let others support your Corvair interests.

CORSA is not only a group of Corvair owners, it underwrites many of our events by providing information, ideas and insurance

Go to [Corvair.org](http://Corvair.org) for information, or see a fellow member for a Communiqué and/or a discount sign up form.

**Vairmail Advertising Rates**

The club rates for display advertising on the Corvair-Center.com site and in the Vairmail. Bob Bacchi is handling the invoicing for advertising.

**RATES**

**Buy & Sell** ~ Free to members \$5.00 per issue to non-members

**Business Cards** ~ Free to members  
**Quarter Page** (approximately 16 sq. in.) \$ 75/year

**Half Page** (approximately 32 sq. in.) \$150/year

**Logo on CorvairCenter.com** \$200/Year  
~ includes a 12 issue quarter page ad in the Vairmail

**Membership Roster Is Available**

**For those members who desire a roster of club members or wish to make a correction may request one by emailing Jon Peters, [Itallguy@att.net](mailto:Itallguy@att.net)**

**The San Diego Corvair Club meets at 7:00 pm on the 2nd Thursday of every month at Ken Baldwin’s (FPB Architects) 2nd floor Conference Room. 4499 Ruffin Rd, San Diego**

**SDCC Christmas Party at Casa Machado Restaurant**



More SDCC Christmas Party Pictures



## Lorrie's Letter—continued

In the last few years we have work to also grow our connections with each other. Our after party at Jack in the box has grown in numbers and dept. of sharing. Same with the meeting with members staying on for some time either in our meeting room or in the driveway around our cars. Kay treats have help to add to our comfort. Our activities are a joy even when it is a small turn out, members are really getting to know each other better. Our sharing has deepened to more of our life interests. I encourage you to keep a look out for the upcoming events. Our January event is a Snow fall drive; meeting at Dudley in Ramona and watching for snow up to Julian, Look for more details in this newsletter. There is an excitement building as we move forward to our 2018 turn at running the Fan Belt Toss then leading up to the 2020 convention. In my observation we have turn a corner from an aging dying club to a vibrant active club. We are mostly about the Corvair but relationships have once again bonded people to each other. We have turn the corner and no longer need to look back to the golden years of SDCC and wish for those days again. As we are looking to new days ahead. If you look around we have old and young, male and female attendees. In November we had our Point Loma grad VAI come again to a club meeting, He come occasionally and brings the sparkle of 20 something energy. If you've been coming you would notice that there is a growing energy. Speaking of energy our Christmas party games left us all laughing as players tried to open the present with red oven mitts and Santa hat. The return upon request of the dollar game also exhilarating. But the parking lot full of Corvairs and the camaraderie of members was such a high lite. Thanks to Mike Evan for putting this party together and Chris Hunt for printing out the Certificates and mugs. Ceicilia brought two beautiful bouquets and there was a feisty auction off between a handful of us ladies. She donated the funds to the club. It takes many hands to make lite work, I so appreciate you all and look forward to the new year.

*Lorrie Tustison*

*After the meeting, come join us at **Jack in the Box** at:*

**10809 Tierrasanta Blvd, San Diego, CA 92124 (East of HW 163)**



Congratulations to Larry and Lorrie Tustison  
on there 41th Wedding Anniversary



## Minutes of the Meeting of the San Diego Corvair Club December 2017

### No Meeting in December

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### Coming events in 2018

Well I hope everyone had a great Christmas and New Year. The New Year, 2018, hopefully has wonderful things in store for all of us. As far as our club is concerned we have a year full of fun and interesting events. Later on in this letter you will find the schedule of events but for now here's an overview of the first 6 months.

January 27<sup>th</sup> – Run For The Hills road trip to Julian, California. Meet in San Ysabel Saturday the 27<sup>th</sup> for breakfast. We plan to depart for Julian at 11AM so if you want to eat some of their fantastic food, come early. Final destination, Julian Pie Company pie shop. (Don't eat too much at Dudley's). More details at our next meeting and a later email update.

February – Valentine's Day Celebration at Lorries and Larry's new home. Want to see if all of their hard work and planning paid off, me too.

March – Another Run for the Hills, this time to the Chocolate Factory. Everyone enjoyed our last trip, So lets do it again.

April – Our Annual Rainbow Car show and swap meet. Everyone seems to enjoy this one so pack up all of that old Corvair stuff and get ready to make some money...

May- San Diego Air Cooled Car Show. This is a big show, mostly VW's, some Porches and last year only a couple of Corvairs. This year lets show them that the San Diego Corvair Club is alive and well.

June – Campo Run. Tom Wright has offered to show us his car collection in Campo. We'll have lunch at the Café 94 and then visit Tom and his cars.

Most of the dates are TBD but stay tuned, I'll publish them as soon as they are set.

Happy New Year

Jim

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Long time SDCC Member Joseph (Joe) E Roth passed away on November 1st 2017, born July 31st 1944 he leaves behind loving wife of 46 years, Dee. Joe had 2 daughters and 5 grandkids plus 1 great granddaughter. Dee wrote "Joe enjoyed cars and working with them for years. He had a good eye of seeing something that others passed by. I think the greatest love he had was when he was younger (about 15-16yrs) and worked for the British motor company in Escondido and Oceanside. From 10 years on he



grew up in the Escondido area. He was a liquor salesman for over 30 years serving the areas in north county, out to the desert, and up to Julian. On the way to Julian is where he found a sunbeam tiger sitting out in a field under a tree in the mid 80's. He enjoyed people in general and enjoyed volunteering with Sheriff dept. for the senior patrol. He loved out of the way coffee cafes and down home family restaurants."

## Vair Tales, Part four By Bruce St. Gean

### “Honey, I’m Home!”

After installing the small chrome air cleaners, headers, and glass packs, it really was not necessary for Sharon to announce she was home. I could hear her coming a block away. She is, by nature, a conservative driver, so she isn’t one to rev the motor. If revving the motor was avoided, the Corvair was not objectionably noisy.

We both liked the increased performance and gas mileage! The car had 3.27:1 differential gears and a 4 speed, so the mileage was in the high 20’s/low 30’s, if driven conservatively. Even driven aggressively, the mileage was in the mid to low 20’s.

### Time for a Shakedown Cruise

Having graduated from El Camino Community College in 1966, I gained admission to California State College, Long Beach. I thought that, if I worked hard, I could graduate by spring, 1968. In reviewing the graduation requirements, I noted I had to pass, among other things, a language exam. I’d taken Spanish in high school, so I thought I had a reasonable chance of passing. Nope. Failed it twice. I checked around, and found that there was an “immersion” program at the Universidad Ibero-Americana. There were some issues, though; Sharon had to finish her teaching year and I had to finish my school year. And – the school was in Mexico City.

The way the schedule worked out, we had to leave on a Thursday, and be at school the following Monday morning. We’d need a car in Mexico City (which, at that time, was the largest city in the world), so we decided to **drive the Corvair**. I’d seen the Chevrolet infomercial, “Driving the Darien”, and thought, “Hey, I can do that!”

I removed the rear seat back and seat cushion. I bolted a rack to the rain gutters. I gave the car a once-over, and loaded it up. Our tent was strapped on one side of the rack, and my surfboard was strapped on the other side. We packed clothes, sleeping bags, and miscellaneous in the back seat area and trunk, and set out from Torrance, Ca. for Mexico City, which we determined was about 3,000 miles. I should add that we did not seek advice on this journey; after all, we were 23 years old, and we knew everything.

We drove southeast, and crossed the border at Mexicali. The road in Mexico roughly parallels the U.S./Mexico border. We continued southeast to the little town of Sonoita, where we knew we would have to present our travel papers. It was late in the evening when we stopped at the inspection station. I stopped the Corvair, got out, and took our papers inside. There were several rough looking Federals, and I handed our papers to the man sitting at the desk. When I looked around, I realized the entire inside of the small structure was covered with bugs. Floor to ceiling, and covering the ceiling. Freaked me out! The seated Federale returned my papers, and I got out of there. We then turned south, drove until we were too tired to continue, and pulled off at a wide, flat spot alongside the road. I set up the tent, we climbed into our sleeping bags, and went to sleep. Until the first semi came along. ...rrrrrrRRRROOOOAAARRRrrr.... That went on, all night.

At first light we were up. The place was crawling with scorpions and centipedes, a few of which decided our tent exterior was a good place to hang out. We packed up, ate a quick bite, and we were off. We drove south, through the Sonora Desert, until, as if by magic, the vegetation changed from cactus to tropical! We drove into Mazatlan late that evening, and began looking for a place to camp. No luck! Finally, we went up to a rather large house, and asked if we could camp between the house and the beach. Turned out it was a physicians retreat, and we had met the caretakers. They gave us permission to camp on the beach in front of the retreat. So, we set up the tent, crawled inside with our sleeping bags, killed all the mosquitos, and slept.

After a quick shower at the retreats outdoor beach shower, we were off. The Corvair was getting pretty “buggy”, but was running perfectly. The suspension had really taken a pounding over what we found out later were some of the worst roads in the world. For example, we’d be flying along about 70 mph, and the pavement would end. There might be a 6” drop off to graded dirt. Or rocks. Lots of detours, especially at “vados” (dry creek beds), and some shallow river fordings. You get the idea.

Near San Blas, we headed inland, through Tepic, and into the Sierra Madre Occidental. The road was steep and twisty, and the pass was over 8,000’. The Corvair was in its element! We drove east, toward Guadalajara, and camped that night in what we found out later was a cow pasture. Early the next morning, we were awakened by a loud scraping sound. I opened the tent flap, and saw a cow licking the dew off the tent! Somewhere around Guadalajara, we stopped for gas, and the attendant asked how my car flew(!) He motioned to the “wing” (my surfboard), so I had a chance to tell this kid about wave tools...

Now we were moving east, across the southern plateau, toward Mexico City. We passed through Irapuato, then Queretaro, and turned south, toward Mexico City. We arrived at the northern outskirts of the city, looked at the city map, and realized we were in trouble. The roads were a maze of gloriettas with radiating streets, and we had to reach the southern suburbs. So, we hired a taxi, and had him lead us to our destination. We arrived at our apartment (which we had rented previously by mail), in the early evening. We celebrated by sleeping soundly in a real bed.

The next morning was school orientation. Afterwards, I decided it was time to check on the car. The engine had used no oil. There were no leaks. The tires showed minimal wear. Nothing broke or fell off. I would learn later that the underside was scraped up but not seriously dented. The car was ready for its next great adventure, which took us all over central Mexico. That adventure will be chronicled next month!

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

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### San Diego Corvair Club 2018 calendar of events

January:

Run for the hills Julian Pie Co. Run January 27<sup>th</sup>.

February:

Valentine's Day Celebration at Lorries and Larry's new home in Valley Center  
(Date TBD)

March:

Chocolate Factory Run (Date TBD)

April:

San Diego Corvair Car Show and Swap Meet Rainbow (Date TBD)

May:

San Diego Air Cooled Car Show: Open to all air cooled cars (Date TBD)

June:

Campo Run: Lunch at Café 94 and visit Tom Wright's Car Collection (Date TBD)

July

El Cajon Car Show (Date TBD)

August:

San Diego Car Club's Birthday Party (Date TBD)

September:

South Coast Corsa's Corvair Cruise-In Car Show (Replaces Bob's big Boy Show) (Date TBD)

October:

Palm Spring's Fan Belt Toss (San Diego Corvair Club 2018 host) (Date TBD)

November:

TBD

December:

Christmas Party (Date TBD)



## New Members:

## Dues is Due

According to our member roster, it's the membership anniversary for the following members:  
Don't let your membership lapse. We need and appreciate every one of you

### SDCC MEMBERSHIP FOR Jan. 2018 72 MEMBERS & 2 SUBSCRIBERS

#### PAST DUE

JOHN JACKSON & ANITA BURREGA  
CHRIS GREGORY 10/17  
LEVI CONSIDNE 10/17  
FLO EVANS 11/17  
MIKE EVANS 11/17  
RON DURIE 11/17  
ARMANDO & ARMANDO D. URBINA 11/17  
TOM WRIGHT 12/17

#### DUE THIS MONTH 01/18

CARLEEN MALONEY & DARYL OLSON  
CHRISTOPHER HUNT

#### DUE NEXT MONTH 02/18

SCOTT SZALKOWSKI & KAY SMITH  
SANDY SANFORD  
JOHN PRICE  
FRED & PATRICIA ADLER

#### Membership fees:

\$20 SUBSCRIPTION TO VAIRMAIL ONLY (no voting or other membership rights)

\$25 REGULAR (yourself only)

\$30 REGULAR AND FAMILY (yourself and spouse or Other residing in same household)



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Also please visit my web site <http://jonstoyshop.50megs.com> Jon Peters: phone 760-749-9014 email [1tallguy@att.net](mailto:1tallguy@att.net)

~~~~~  
Bob Bacchi has an NOS in box '64 rear grill, asking \$195.

email [bbobb@att.net](mailto:bbobb@att.net)

~~~~~  
Wanted: Rear stabilizer bar for late model Corvair

Call Tom Wright at (619)787-1439 email [twright3@san.rr.com](mailto:twright3@san.rr.com)

~~~~~  
For Sale: 1961 Rampside pickup, bill of sale, rebuilt PG trans-axle by Paul Kehler. Good solid body with just a few rust spots. No engine, but 2 spare 110 motors included, extra PG trans-axle, not installed. Straight body no missing pieces. Powered coated 14 stock steel wheels, first \$3000.00 takes it.

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~~~~~  
For Sale: 4ea 14" x 7" chrome standard 5 bolt pattern for GM wheels of the 60s plus caps and 2 wheels have useable tires included for \$100.00, Call Mark Marcoulidas

[hharpo@earthlink.net](mailto:hharpo@earthlink.net) (714) 920-2878

~~~~~  
For Sale: set of standard cast piston rings.

Call Rod Tetrault (619) 733-4821

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# San Diego Car Club Events

Looking for a San Diego Area Car Event?

Check these sites for activities, shows and cruise nights thru the end of the year ...

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[www.goodoleboyssandiego.com/events.htm](http://www.goodoleboyssandiego.com/events.htm)

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