## NORTH TEXAS CORVAIR ASSOCIATION



## TRANSAXLE TELEGRAPH

To chronicle events / communicate / entertain / instruct / inform / teach / help

A CHARTERED CHAPTER OF THE CORVAIR SOCIETY OF AMERICA

January 2021 Issue No. 546 Volume 48, Number 1

# A patriotic beginning to the entrance of Texas Motor Speedway's "Gift of Lights"















#### 2021 Elected Officers

McKennan Wright 972-345-1658 President

Dancer83024@yahoo.com

Jayson Woods Vice 972-533-1719 jdw.edu@gmail.com President

Sandra Cram 214-763-6312 Secretary

scram@msn.com

Jeanette Alberte 972-203-8990 Treasurer jalberte@att.net

Activities Coordinator

Gail Fricker 214-244-0205 Director 1

gw.fricker44@gmail.com

Charles Cram Director 2 214-763-6312 ccram@msn.com

Ramon Morales 847-2541398 Director 3

Morales@ameritech.net

#### **2021 Appointed Positions**

Mike Boyle 817-909-7874 Historian

txboyle@sbcglobal.net

Robert Crow Photographer 940-368-8700

robcro@embarqmail.com

Gail Fricker Newsletter 214-244-0205 Editor

gw.fricker44@gmail.com

Membership / Coordinator

Mike Dobie 817-313-0190 Coordinator mdvair@aol.com

Robert Freeman 817-431-7779 Awards Rbfvair@aol.com

Sunshine Chair

Jayson Woods 972-533-1719 Website jdw.edu@gmail.com North Texas Corvair Association P.O. Box 170796 Irving, TX 75017-0796 http://northtexascorvair.org

#### • Individual Membership

- \* \$25.00 per year for CORSA members
- \* \$30.00 per year for NON-CORSA members.
- Family Membership:
  - \* CORSA or Non CORSA member \$10 additional per family member living at same address
- CORSA dues are \$45.00 per year.

Support NTCA - Join CORSA





2021 MONTHLY MEETING TALLIES					
MONTH	Att	Ttl	E	L	F
JANUARY:	30	Ζ	0	0	M
FEBRUARY:					
MARCH:					
APRIL:					
MAY:					
JUNE:					
JULY:					
AUGUST:					
SEPTEMBER:					
OCTOBER:					
NOVEMBER:					
DECEMBER:					
Att = Attendance Ttl = Total # Cars					
E= Early Cars L = Late Cars					

FC = Forward Control Cars

### <u>Welcome</u> **New Members!** Jeff and Logan McKinley, of Arlington 1965 Corsa, White and Rust Damon Sacks, of Dallas 1963 Black Monza Convertible Marlow Wojtek, of Dallas 1965 Corsa Convertible Black 140HP Tom Roman of Mansfield 1965 Monza Convertible 140, Red on Red Rich Kresler of Watauga 1966 Corsa Convertible, Red

#### FILLER PIPE

#### **Current Membership 108**

#### Who's Dues Are Due!

wno's Dues Are Due!						
<u>Due in October</u>	Going to Dr	op Soon				
D'Avignon	Robb	10/1/2020				
Due in November	To be dropp	ed				
Baker	Donna	11/1/2020				
Baker	Sam	11/1/2020				
Hilliard	Ron	11/1/2020				
McClay	Mike	11/1/2020				
McClay	Karen	11/1/2020				
Mulligan Sr	Dan	11/1/2020				
Spencer	Freeman	11/1/2020				
Due in December	Last month					
Leonard	Mike	12/1/2020				
McGregor	Joel	12/1/2020				
Wispell	Carolyn	12/1/2020				
Wright Jr.	Tommy	12/1/2020				
Due in January	This month					
Dobie	Pati	1/1/2021				
Duplantis	Justin	1/1/2021				
Goldstein	Zach	1/1/2021				
Martin	John	1/1/2021				
Martin	Ann	1/1/2021				
Moore	Christopher					
Renken	Britney	1/1/2021				
Tarpenning	Bob	1/1/2021				
Due in February	Next month	2/4/2024				
Arras	Dan	2/1/2021				
Arras	Denise	2/1/2021				
Boyle	Jennifer	2/1/2021				
Boyle	Lindsey	2/1/2021				
Boyle	Mike	2/1/2021				
Bryan	Debbie	2/1/2021				
Bryan	George	2/1/2021				
Crow	Joronda	2/1/2021				
Crow	Robert	2/1/2021				
Dobie	Mike	2/1/2021				
Fricker	Gail	2/1/2021				
Rehders	Fred	2/1/2021				
Rehders	Martha	2/1/2021				
Sheedy	Jack	2/1/2021				
Sheedy	Judi	2/1/2021				
Surbaugh	Greg	2/1/2021				
		40				

The TRANSAXLE TELEGRAPH is published monthly by the NORTH TEXAS CORVAIR ASSOCIATION (NTCA). Published material expresses the author's view only. NTCA reserves the right to accept, reject, or edit all material submitted for publication. Published advertising does not imply endorsement of products or services. NTCA is not liable for the accuracy of articles. Unless expressly prohibited, permission is granted to the Corvair Society of America (CORSA) or CORSA chapters to reproduce any material contained herein, provided such use is not for profit. In cases of original material, both the author and NTCA must be credited. Address all correspondence to: NORTH TEXAS CORVAIR ASSOCIATION, P.O. Box 170796, Irving, TX 75017-0796.

## From the President McKennan Wright

## From the Vice-President Jayson Woods

## From the Secretary Sandra Cram







What an amazing turnout to kick off 2021! Thank you to everyone who joined our January Zoom meeting, and we hope to see any more faces at future meetings.

Congratulations to Mike Boyle! He is the winner of the ZOOM meeting participation drawing.

As noted during the meeting, we will be keeping an eye on the weather to see if we can safely have outdoor physical meetings. Please keep an eye out as we will inform the club of where we will be meeting.

Hope everyone is staying safe and warm, and we will see you at our February meeting!

Thanks, McKennan Wright My thoughts and prayers go out the Family of Sam Baker! What a way to start out 2021.

At the next meeting if you have any stories of Sam please get them ready. We will be sharing our favorite memories then.

The Directory located in the Garage on the NTCA Website has been updated.

The password for the website has been changed. The new password is *corvair2021* 

Be safe & stay well.

Jayson Woods



## Meeting Minutes January 2021

The January zoom meeting was called to order by the President, McKennan Wright at 2:10 pm.

The Secretary reminded members to pay their dues.

Jeannette Alberte, Treasurer, reported there was no activity for December. No income received and no payments made.

Jayson Woods, Vice-President, will ask members to step forward and help with programs for the coming year.

The January activity will be a combination regular meeting and "banquet".

Future activities will be TBA for now.

Tech tips and Open Forum followed.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Sandra Crum

#### **IN MEMORY**

## **Philip Sammy Baker**

October 11, 1954 - January 11, 2021





Phillip Sammy Baker passed away January 11,2021 from his long time battle with Addison's Disease.

Sam was an integral part of NTCA and a genuinely wonderful person. We will miss his quick wit, funny stories and helpful ways. He was loved and respected by all who knew him.

His family shared that Sam would want us to celebrate him together as a group when we can safely do so. In the mean time, please honor him by taking ride in your Corvair and remembering the great times with Sam.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Donna, son Beaux and Phillip Baker, his family and friends.



♥ Transaxle Telegraph

#### **ZOOM Meetings**

This link will be used for <u>all</u> the Zoom meetings we have in 2021.

Topic: NTCA February Meeting

Time: Feb 6, 2021 02:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Monthly: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/ tZwpduGhpzgqG9JRvEqgFBgKKexkqgmqtzjS/ics? icsToken=98tyKuGgqjoiE92WsBiBRpw-Boj4WfPxmHZfjfp3rgnAEid1QATdHedaOaN4HcnE

Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88418993016? pwd=eUc2ZGIxWWInQSs5N0k3QTFhbzRJUT09

Meeting ID: 884 1899 3016

Passcode: 416732 One tap mobile

+13462487799,,88418993016#,,,,\*416732# US (Houston) +12532158782,,88418993016#,,,,\*416732# US (Tacoma)

Dial in number:

+1 346 248 7799

Meeting ID: 884 1899 3016

Passcode: 416732

#### H.O.T UPDATE

Heart of Texas Corvair Reunion for 2021 has been moved to a new date!

After rescheduling for April 2021, we have had to move it to November 12-14, 2021. It will still be in Nacogdoches, TX and the Fredonia Hotel. While another change was not in the plan, health experts anticipate the many challenges with Covid will continue in Spring and the new dates insure we mitigate any risk to our Corvair family. The hotel and City of Nacogdoches have been flexible and wants to have us there. Fall in east Texas is a beautiful time of year in the piney woods of east Texas and we still have plans for a great time! If you made hotel reservations, they will be moved for you to these new dates. If you want to cancel, please call the hotel. Registration will open later this year. Looking forward to seeing everyone in Nacogdoches in Fall!

#### **2021 Car Club Program Partnership**

Good news for CORSA Members! CORSA is now a part of the Mecum Car Club program. Attending the Mecum auction in 2021? You get discounted tickets.





Corvair Society of America is proud to be a part of the Mecum Auctions Car Club Program for 2021. This program was established to support the car clubs, their members and the collector car community.

#### CORSA Members will get discounted tickets

Bidder Registration Discounts! Individual COR-SA members can buy a Standard Bidder registration for Mecum Auctions that includes one (10 Bidder Badge and one (1) Guest Badge. The normal price for Standard Bidder registration is \$200 per auction, but CORSA members pay only \$100. This offer is available only for those of you who register online. You can also register by phone, by mail, or when you walk in the door, but you won't get the discount. You can find all the details at corvair.org and log into your account.

#### CORSA will also be on display

Mecum has a car club booth at each one of its auctions. CORSA will be among the clubs represented there with brochures and sample copies of the CORSA Communique magazine. Our logo will also appear in Mecum show programs and in *Mecum Magazine*.

In addition, Mecum will make available contact information gathered at the car club booth for CORSA membership prospects.



My first Corvair was my first car at age 16 in '74, a \$200 Corvair Monza 900 convertible. My dad thought it would be a good idea to get a project car to work on and drive. He'd had one - a '62 4-door like the t-shirt - and a high school friend had a neat early coupe that I liked. My friends had old cars and I'd been rebuilding and working on motorcycles and I was heading towards a career in mechanical engineering. We rebuilt the first engine and over the years went through it all together, having a blast. The first engine dropped valve seats twice so we rebuilt and installed a 110hp '64 engine that he found. There was no internet, but I knew every Corvair in every junkyard within 25 miles of Roanoke, Va - and you could still get parts from a Chevy dealer or auto parts store.

I drove that car for 9 years, anywhere and everywhere. At Virginia Tech in Engineering school I took every automotive class I could get - even "Vehicular Safety" from a professor who was a Corvair guy. After I started working - and moving - I had too many vehicles and not enough drivers. So, in a fit of stupidity, I sold my Corvair to a co-worker. Two months later his son flipped it. Luckily he was not injured and the car went back to the junkyard for what we paid for it -\$200. I saw it after the crash and regretted selling it but knew then that one day I'd have another one.



Fast forward again through retirement in 2016 and then a move to Justin in 2018. It was time to resurrect the Corvair project. I built a shop with a car lift for doing old car work. I still have all the old Corvair manuals, tools, etc from my Dad's workshop. I started hitting it pretty hard last year (re-joined NTCA) and last November I made it run, then drove it - the first time it had seen the road since 1984. (Before the clutch died and Covid hit she made it over to Irving for a NTCA meeting.)

Thanks to Covid-19 I've done extensive work this year getting her to this point, it is currently in the shop getting a new top, but still needs floorboards, then carpet. And I need to go through the front suspension and steering gearbox as well. Here's a list of the big stuff I've done to date, and of course there's tons and tons of little stuff - and an amazing stack of receipts from Clark's and others.

Continued on page 7



**Fast forward** through career, employers, 9 moves, 7 states, 2 kids to the 90's. I learned about the car I have now - a '64 Monza convertible - from a co-worker in Kansas City in the mid-90's. It was stored in his family's barn but I didn't have the time or place to do anything with it. We moved down here to Texas in 2003 and I hadn't thought much about Corvairs for a while. In 2007 my KC friend called - said they were cleaning out the barn - if I wanted the Corvair I had to come get it NOW. So I drove up there, sight unseen, bought the car and drove it down here on a trailer in an ice storm. I bought some parts and a battery and fooled around with it enough to get the engine to light off (and joined NTCA briefly, attended a couple meetings) - but that's where the project died because....my son found a'66 Mustang shortly after and we worked on it together for about 5 years - the Corvair sat



### **My Corvair Story Cont.**

Continued from page 6

An interesting part of this project is wrapping my head around the historical perspective. My first Corvair, the '63, was a "clunker" at the time but only 11 years old. We were able to drive it home and the amount of work it took to get it back in shape wasn't overwhelming. Other than the engine most everything worked well or could be easily repaired. It died in a crash at age 20, but was running great. The '64 I am working on was "running when we parked it, but having clutch issues" at age 20 in 1984. But before running again, it turned 55 years old having sat unused and mostly untouched in a barn/garage for 35 years. The fact that anything works at all is amazing.

- Removed everything from the top of the engine including the shroud to clean out the critter nest of acorns and a good chunk of the cotton rear seat padding.
- New brakes from the backing plates out including drums, brake lines, wheel cylinders and the late model master cylinder conversion.
- New fuel tank and sending unit.
- New tires, stayed with the original 13-inch, had to scrounge a couple good rims.
- All lights, lenses, switches and accessories gone through, fixed or replaced and they all work. Added "retro" radio/ stereo with Bluetooth and kick pan speakers. Wipers replaced and washer pump replaced. New heater blower fan.
- Weatherstripping replaced.
- Rear suspension rebuilt, new rubber, new shocks front and rear.
- New wheel bearings, front and rear.
- The engine most likely a '62 runs pretty well. I've done extensive work on carburation, engine seals, ignition, alternator upgrade, etc. and it runs pretty well but has started leaking oil from pushrod tubes. (At about this time Robert Parker advertised a '64 engine for sale so I bought it and it's now sitting in the shop ready to go in when I get the car back. Felt like high school again drove out to Abilene, helped pull an engine out in the driveway, then loaded it on the truck and drove home with it.)
- Clutch failed so I built an engine dolly, pulled the power train and enlisted the aid of Sam Baker. He rebuilt my transmission/transaxle and provided priceless technical advice and support. I put her back together with all new clutch, pressure plate, flywheel, release bearing, u-joints, etc.
- Rubbed out original paint with restore compound and waxed it. Also cleaned then polished the chrome thanks to Mike Boyle's aluminum foil tip.
- New upholstery from Clark's but used early black/grey cloth instead of vinyl.

The old gal is not perfect, but looks pretty good going down the road. There's some rust on her and I'll have to take that on when I get all the mechanical stuff done. For now I just like jumping in it and tooling around the country roads with the top down, listening to that amazing air-cooled engine sound. One of these days I'd like to get her back to Virginia and tool around on the Blue Ridge Parkway with my Dad.



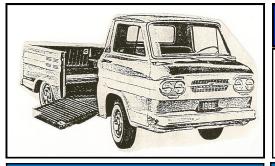


## **ACTIVITY REPORT**

### **December 2020 ACTIVITY**

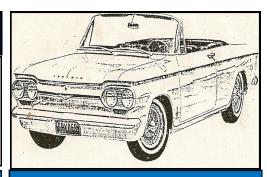
After meeting at Buc-ee's we caravanned over to the Texas Motor Speedway for the

"GIFT of Lights" show.



## Classified Ads

Material collected, taken from the bulletin board at each meeting or emailed to NTCA by deadline listed below, will be published here for three months free to NTCA members, \$25 for non-members.



**FOR SALE** 

#### **FOR SALE**

#### **FOR SALE**





Website Order Parts Online Catalog Contact Us

#### CLARK'S CORVAIR WILL BE CLOSED

JAN 21-JAN 24, 2021

We will be updating our computer system on January 21-24, This is to be able to serve you better in the future.

We are quite confident that it will be business as usual on Monday Jan 25.

We will get as many orders out as possible by Wed Jan 20, but some may not get shipped until the following week.

Thanks, Cal Clark If you have a Corvair or parts for sale or are in need of Corvair parts etc, please use this space to let everyone know. It is here for you to spread the word.

## Mike's Convair Parts



The New Generation, Parts and Rebuilding Services Ads for publication should be emailed to the newsletter editor at <a href="mailto:gw.fricker44@gmail.com">gw.fricker44@gmail.com</a>

r-------

Ads must be received by the first Saturday of the month for printing in that month's Transaxle Telegraph.

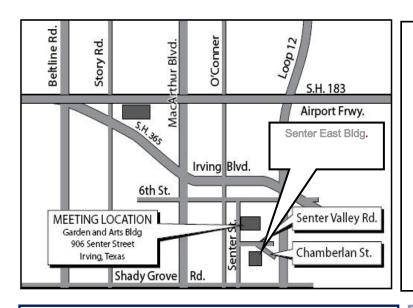
П

ALSO: If your For Sale or Wanted items are completed, please notify the newsletter editor so they can be removed.



### Ah, a flashback of the "Good ole Days" of last 2019!





### To all Born in the Month of January: Happy Birthday!

Your birthday always comes
as we start another year,
January is your month
your special day is here.
It's the middle of the winter
most days are cold and dreary,
so here's a birthday wish for you
that your day is bright and cheery!
902G

Visit our NTCA Web Page
www.northtexascorvair.org
or through the CORSA Local
Chapters page at www.corvair.org

