

NORTHEAST CORVAIR COUNCIL 2012 CORSA CONVENTION MEETING NOTES

Date of meeting: February 18, 2012.

Meeting location: Grange at Southington, CT.

Attendees: Kathy Bombardier, Ray Bombardier, Victor Clausen, Kevin Gaudette, Ken Klingaman, Mike Kovacs, Al Lacki, Tom Ludwig, Dave McMillan, Brian O'Neill, Roberta O'Neill, Michel Paroz, Peter Roca, Tom Russ, John Ryall, Marian Ryall, Bob Scheidel, Justine Scheidel, Tim Schwartz, Bob Sedani, Elaine Sedani, Cathy Sunden, John Sunden, John Teixeira, Rob Wanthouse

Schedule of Events.

ALL CHANGES TO THE PROPOSED SCHEDULE MUST BE MADE THIS COMING WEEK. NOTIFY RON MANWARING OF ANY FURTHER CHANGES.

Ron Manwaring handed out copies of the proposed Schedule of Events so that the event leaders could check the dates and times.

Michel Paroz asked Ron Manwaring to fix the Tuesday start time shown for Registration. It should be 3 PM, not 2 PM.

Kevin Gaudette suggested to Ron Manwaring that the start times shown on the Convention Schedule need to be fixed. The current edition of the Schedule shows the time of day when the buses will depart. It should be revised to show the time of day when people should muster prior to departure.

Tom Ludwig and Ken Schifftrner asked Ron Manwaring to move the start time for the Concours Participants' Meeting one hour earlier to accommodate muster for the Mohegan Sun Bus Tour.

Registration Fees.

Brian O'Neill announced that registration fees will be ala carte, as in previous conventions.

Kevin Gaudette suggested to Tom Ludwig that prices for the bus tours need to be fixed. The price shown for the Newport Tour is too low because it does not include the entry fee for the Breakers Mansion, which is the highlight of the tour.

Expense Budget.

Tom Ludwig handed out copies of the Convention budget to each of the event leaders. The copies show how much money Tom has budgeted for the expenses associated with each event.

Event leaders should contact Tom Ludwig for reimbursement.

Dash Plaques.

Roy Buckridge is procuring dash plaques for goody bags and trophies. The plaques will show the Convention logo created by Tom Scalera. An order has been placed for "615" plaques. Brian O'Neill passed around samples for the attendees to inspect.

Autocross.

We have signed a contract to rent Stafford Springs Raceway for the autocross. Brian O'Neill is working to procure insurance for this event.

Rally.

The CORSA Rally Chairman, Dale Dewalt, requires a copy of the rally route and rally instructions. This will not be due until sometime after our next committee meeting in Sturbridge.

Convention Booklet.

Dave McMillan and Tom Ludwig have been in contact with printers who are qualified to publish the Convention booklet. They agreed to work together to pick one.

Dave McMillan and Bob Marlow are developing a price list for Convention booklet ad space and sponsorships. Al Lacki will make the price list available on the Convention website as soon as the list is complete. (Please email them to Al so he can do this).

Vendor Space.

Rob Wanhouse is preparing (or has prepared) price lists for outdoor vendor spaces. Dan Schmidt is preparing (or has prepared) price lists for indoor vendor spaces. Al Lacki will make these price lists available on the Convention website as soon as they are complete. (Please email them to Al so he can do this).

Ray Bombardier announced that Sturbridge Village has an ordinance which requires all "transient vendors" to register with town hall. Rob Wanthouse volunteered to contact the town hall to determine if this applies to vendors who will be selling wares at the Convention. We are hoping that one registration form will be sufficient to cover all of them.

Bus Tours.

Kevin Gaudette announced that contracts for the bus tours have been signed.

Parking.

Bob Marlow has ordered safety vests for volunteers who will be working in the parking lots. (The number of vests was not mentioned).

Tom Russ proposed that we enter into a contract with Old Sturbridge Village to rent a parking lot for trailers. The price is \$875. Tom has determined that there are no other practical alternatives. The attendees agreed that Tom should proceed.

Tom Russ agreed that all persons towing trailers should proceed directly to the Old Sturbridge Village parking lot upon arriving at the Convention. No trailers will be allowed on the premises of the host hotel until after the owners have checked-into the hotel, and only then for purposes of unloading cars that are not street legal.

Al Lacki will post messages on the Convention website and on the various Corvair discussion group boards to convey trailer parking instructions at the proper time.

Clam Bake.

The host hotel is charging a whopping \$49 per person for the clam bake, and this is without lobster. Brian O'Neill said he will attempt to negotiate this price downward. If an insufficient number of people register for the clam bake, we will cancel it.

The hotel will not allow outside commercial caterers on-site, so there are no practical alternatives for us to host a clam bake at the hotel.

Ice Cream Social.

The host hotel is charging \$8 per person for the ice cream social. This is the price after negotiation.

T-Shirts.

So far, no vendor has been selected. The attendees favor a proposal to enter into an arrangement with a vendor who will prepare T-Shirts on-site, on a per-person basis, with a commission paid by the vendor to NECC for each T-Shirt sold. This will get NECC out of the business of holding T-Shirt inventories and clogging up the registration room with T-Shirt sales. However, the vendor would need to agree to stay on-site for all three days of the Convention.

Brian O'Neill offered to contact Kevin Clark of KCVairBrush to see if Kevin is agreeable to the proposed arrangement.

Ron Manwaring offered to contact the local Volkswagen club, which has used this proposed arrangement at one of their recent shows.

Traffic Cones.

Ken Klingaman needs traffic cones for the autocross course. Tom Russ needs traffic cones for general parking. Ken Schiffner needs traffic cones for the Concours show. John Ryall needs traffic cones for the go-kart slalom. Tim Sattler will likely need cones (or gallon milk jugs filled with sand) for the back-seat driver contest.

Ron Manwaring said that the Connecticut Autocross and Rally Team (CART) club is purchasing new traffic cones to replace their old ones. Ron will contact CART to make arrangements to borrow CART's old traffic cones.

Host Hotel Update.

The management of the Sturbridge Host Hotel and Conference Center has informed Brian O'Neill that the host hotel is completely booked for Convention week. Every room is taken. The hotel manager has given a list of names of the people who have made reservations. The list consists of 350 names.

Bob Marlow has posted an announcement on the Convention web blog to inform visitors that there are a number of other hotels available for booking in the area immediately surrounding the host hotel.

Trophies.

John Teixeira needs a room to store trophies at the host hotel, before banquet night. Ron Manwaring agreed to coordinate this. If all else fails, Brian O'Neill offered to store them in the Presidential Suite, which he and Roberta will be occupying during Convention week.

Five kinds of trophies will be awarded at the Convention:

1. Cole Award trophy, which is passed-around from year to year by CORSA officials. (No NECC involvement required).
2. Formal Event trophies, which will be fabricated under John Teixeira's direction and which must be designed in accordance with CORSA rules. Brian O'Neill will provide a copy of the CORSA trophy rules to John Teixeira and to the leaders of the Autocross, Rally and Concours events. The trophy rules are not on the internet.
3. Valve Cover Racing trophies, which are being fabricated from Corvair valve covers under Brian O'Neill's direction.
4. Model Car Contest trophies, which are being fabricated from Corvair pistons under Tim Schwartz's direction.
5. People's Choice Car Display trophies, which will be fabricated under John Teixeira's direction.

The design requirements generally spell-out the kind of information that needs to be inscribed on each trophy, such as the name of the event, the name of the award winner, the rank of the award, i.e. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.

John Teixeira and Ken Schiffner have been in contact with trophy vendors who can inscribe trophies with the names of award winners on short notice (i.e. same-day service). John and Ken agreed to coordinate with each other to select a qualified vendor for this job.

The CORSA trophy rules dictate not only the design requirements for the physical trophies, but also the number of trophies that should be awarded for each class in an event. This number is determined by the number of cars that have been registered for each class.

Ken Klingaman (or John Egerton), Bob Scheidel, and Ken Schiffner need to read the CORSA trophy rule book and provide estimates of the number of trophies that need to be assembled for each of their respective events, (i.e. the Autocross, Rally and Concours). The estimates need to be provided to John Teixeira. Naturally, estimation cannot be done until the pre-registration period is well along. John's email address is: jt09339@comcast.net (Those are zeros in his email address!)

Convention Flyer.

Al Lacki will email a copy of the Convention Flyer to Ray and Kathy Bombardier.

Book Signing.

The author has a schedule conflict and it appears he will not be available for the book signing that was proposed earlier.

Merchandise.

Roberta O'Neill announced that the Corvair quilt is complete and ready for raffle.

Ken Schiffner agreed to call the Corvair Preservation Foundation to determine if any Corvair 50th commemorative silver coins remain available for sale.

Tech Sessions.

Ron Manwaring agreed to contact hotel management to determine if the car detailing tech session can be held indoors, in the Exhibition Hall.

Club Banners.

The host hotel has agreed to hang club banners around the hotel's indoor atrium. Brian O'Neill will contact Kris Mosenko at the host hotel to set a time and place for club reps to turn in their banners for this purpose.

Autocross Timing Equipment.

Mark Edmunds is investigating the availability of timing equipment for the autocross. He is reporting to Brian O'Neill on this assignment.

Banquet Ticket Exchange.

A husband and wife team from NJACE has volunteered to staff the banquet ticket exchange table.

Hospitality Room.

We need to bring in our own coffee and snacks by ourselves. The host hotel will not permit outside commercial caterers to serve food inside the hotel, and the host hotel's prices are too high.

Idea: A popcorn-maker.

Idea: Push-pin board with a map of North America. (Attendees can designate where they came from).

Idea: Cork message board, so that attendees can reach out to each other via hand-written notes.

Public Address Equipment.

Steve Calandra has volunteered to do karaoke for the social hour. He has also volunteered to provide music for the clam bake. He has his own PA equipment.

Similarly, the blue grass group that Brian O'Neill is hiring for the ice cream social will bring its own PA equipment.

We still need PA equipment for the Concours field. Brian O'Neill volunteered to contact Steve Calandra to determine if Steve will loan or rent his PA equipment for that purpose.

Banquet.

Ray Bombardier suggested a rolling slide show for the banquet. It would consist of digital photos - candid shots - taken throughout the Convention event. It would not be coordinated with awards, but instead, consist mostly of photos of the people who attended the Convention, rather than the cars. We will need to borrow or rent a computer projector to do this.

Data Processing.

Al Lacki will contact Harry Jensen to determine the number of laptop computers that NECC will need to provide for Registration.

Ken Schiffner will contact the CORSA Concours chairman to determine the number of laptop computers that NECC will need to provide for Concours scoring.

Next Meeting.

March 10 in Sturbridge.