

Corvair Houston Newsletter



VOLUME 36, ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2010

This month: **NO** regular club meeting in February!! Pancake Breakfast at the Jannise's - February 20th,
Brazoria County Car Show and Watkins' Catfish Catch&Fry - March 6



Corvair Houston's Youngest Active Member

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Driver's Seat



by Tony Pomponio

(Editor's Note: Late addition to the calendar this month! Join us for a fun day of breakfast, a car show and a catfish catch-and-fry on Saturday, March 6th!

We'll meet for breakfast at the I-Hop Restaurant near Pearland at Highway 288 and FM 518 at 7am. A caravan of Corvairs will head to the Brazoria County Charity Car Show in Brazoria, Texas.

Afterwards, we'll head to Jim and Dee Watkins' home where we will catch our own catfish out of Jim's pond which will be cleaned and fried on the spot for dinner!

The annual January Board of Directors meeting appointed the new list of officers for the upcoming year. The new officers were voted in by those attending our regular January meeting. I have the honor of being voted in as the new President. I realize that the shoes I must fill of the previous presidents will be a challenging "feat." I hope, with their aid, I will do them justice and continue in the traditions of Corvair Houston.

I would like to take this opportunity in praising our past president, Jim Watkins, for the many contributions to our organization. Most notably his TV's for VA charity drive. Under his tutelage, Corvair Houston has donated four 42" LCD flat screen TV's to Michael E. DeBakey V.A. Medical Center. I vow to continue this very worthy charity, with the backing of our membership. Under his steerage, Corvair Houston attended new car shows and attracted new members.

Ricki Jannise has turned over the reins of Newsletter publisher to Mark Clarke. Mark contributes constantly to our organization and was the 2008 President. Due to new job requirements, Mark will assume this position late February/early March. I know the quality of our Newsletter will continue and be enhanced by him. I also would like to thank Ricki Jannise for his great handling of the newsletter.

I want to thank and welcome all of the new and re-elected officers with hearty congratulations. I know we will continue to strive to make our organization as exciting and vibrant as the previous officers. And a special welcome to Ricki Jannise as Vice President. His contributions to our club have been enormous.

As President, I would like to see our club continue to bring into the fold new members. I would also like to see more of our dues paying members attend our monthly meetings.

We'll kick off 2010 with a Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, February 20th, to be held at Sally and Ricki Jannise's (*map on page 8*). The festivities will begin at 9am. Let's make this a great day. A "Donation Jar" has been added to this year's breakfast. This will help to defray the cost of the "goodies" with the surplus to be added to the TV's for the VA fund.

I'd like to schedule

more fun runs and car show events whenever possible. We need to spread the word that Corvair is alive and well in Houston and throughout the country. Therefore, I'd like to create an Events Coordinator (Czar?) position that would coordinate fun runs and upcoming car shows/swap meets/public gatherings or any other function that large public attendance is possible. Let's spread the word about Corvair and our organization. To that end, Jim Watkins has volunteered to take on this position.

March will usher in the Old Car Picnic at San Jacinto Battleground and [Continued on Page 4](#)

ON THE COVER

Abigail McCullough, granddaughter of Jim and Dee Watkins and daughter of new members, John & Jennifer McCullough proudly displays the family's 1961 Rampside (aka Bulldog).



Rearview Mirror

by Jon Protteau



Know what happens to Corvair Houston members who do not attend the annual election of officers and board members at the January club meeting? They are likely to be elected as officers. Take, for example, this year's election. Mark Clarke, who was somewhere in the hills of Tennessee, was chosen as the Newsletter Editor to replace Ricki Jannise who was hunting deer in the swamps of Louisiana, a public service activity if there ever was one. In Absentia, Ricki was elected Vice president, replacing Tony Pomponio, who was elected President, but since Tony was actually present at the meeting, he has only himself to blame. Tony replaced outgoing President Jim Watkins, who along with his shy and retiring wife Dee, provided excellent leadership for Corvair Houston last year, encouraging us to visit new people and places, even inspiring the club to raise the funds to provide the Houston VA hospital with several large-screen televisions for

the patient waiting rooms. Thank you, Jim and Dee, for everything that you have done for the club.

OK, it's time for this month's animal story. Actually, this is January's animal story, but we decided it would be a better fit with the February issue and Groundhog Day, even though there are no groundhogs involved, just a phantom armadillo. It started with a single hole appearing at the base of one of the overgrown houseplants which live outside because we got tired moving them back inside every winter. I ran water down the hole with a hose for an hour or two to make sure nothing was taking up permanent residence there, but nothing came out, and I figured that was the end of it. But new holes kept appearing. Dug by some unsub, (that's police talk for "unknown subject") they would appear each morning in a new location. Something was working its way through our yard, apparently finding something of interest

under every piece of plant life bigger than a blade of grass. Fearful that an armadillo was on a rampage that would kill all of our shrubs and flowers, and that I would have to spend the next ten years with a shovel replacing them, I got out the trusty live trap. Having successfully used it to catch pesky raccoons and possums, I figured it would hold an armadillo, even a mean one, so I typed in "Armadillo trapping" on Google, and found that there is no way to bait a trap for an armadillo. The best advice from the American Society of Trappers and Black Powder Rifle Shooters is to set out a trap in

the shrubbery and hope that the armadillo will accidentally stumble into it in the dark. So, every day, I checked the trap, found it empty, and moved it near the freshest of the holes that kept marching across our yard. Weeks went by, and I was out inspecting the holes, which by now had reached the far end of the yard, when our daughter opened the back door and let her two beagles and our three poodles loose. The five dogs immediately scattered in five different directions, but #1 daughter only got as far as the live trap when she let out a scream, actually several screams, and

Continued on Page 4



Too Cute to Shoot

Driver's Seat

(Continued from page 2)


State Park along with the Bellville Classic Car Stampede and many other events that will be posted in this newsletter and on our website.

Our sister club to the West (Alamo Corvair) will be hosting the 2010 HOT reunion in San Marcus,

April 9-11, 2010. Check out their website alamocitycorvair.org, click H.O.T. 2010 for hotel info and reservations. Please put this week-end on your "must attend" agenda. Let's out-do the attendance of the other clubs.

2010 will be a fun-

filled and exciting year. Auctions, festivities, car shows, fish fry, pool parties, H.O.T., CORSA Convention, Swap meets, camping trips, Fun Runs, Wings and Wheels, Autorama, Christmas parties and so much more. I sure hope we don't run

out of time. If you have any suggestions as to how we can make our club a better organization, please call or email me with your ideas and suggestions. Thanks and I hope to see many new faces at our meetings and car gatherings. 



by Tony Pomponio

Rearview Mirror

(Continued from page 3)

yelled, "There's a skunk in the trap!"


"Get the dogs!", I yelled back, as the dogs ran in circles. We were fortunate that the skunk apparently had no odor whatsoever, because none of the dogs even sniffed in its direction, and we were able to grab them and hustle them back into the house without anybody getting sprayed. The question now was what do you do with a skunk in a live trap? The first step was to cover the cage without spooking the skunk, so I carefully approached the cage where it was backed up against the door of the trap. I slowly slid a

vinyl-coated tarp over the cage, hoping that the skunk would think that if it was dark, it must be time to go to sleep, just like a parakeet in a cage. Skunks are nocturnal, but I was clutching at any available straw. Moving a fraction of an inch at a time, I raised the cage far enough to tuck the tarp underneath, so that I could pick up the whole package and carry it to the back of Black Beauty, our '87 F150 which has a camper cover over a lined bed. I figured the worst case scenario was that I might have to scrap the bed liner. I gently closed the gate, started the truck, and eased out of the

driveway.

For the next ten miles, with a white knuckle grip on the wheel, I eased the truck past every bump and pothole, searching for a place where I could release a skunk without causing a public uproar. It's harder than you would think to find a place like that; the world is definitely getting too crowded. Finally, I spotted a tractor lane going into one of the few remaining small fields north of Montgomery. I backed in so that the traffic on the road couldn't see what I was doing, and gently lifted the covered trap out and set in on the ground. I carefully, oh so

carefully, lifted a corner of the tarp and slid it back far enough to locate the door. I used a two-foot long screwdriver to lever the door open, and the skunk just sat there. Long seconds passed, but finally the skunk stuck his nose out of the cage, sniffed, and waddled off into the tall grass.

We have learned to live with the holes in the yard. We think of them as crop circles: we don't know how they get there, and we don't want to know what makes them. The live trap is parked in the garage next to the Greenbrier. (Required Corvair content.) 



by Jon Protteau

the Corvair Houston Bulletin Board

Heart of Texas Reunion

The 2010 Heart of Texas Reunion is coming on April 9th - 11th!! Alamo City Corvair Association is the host club this year and it will be held in San Marcos, Texas. Register soon!! You must register for both the event and the hotel room! The host hotel is:

The Embassy Suites San Marcos
1001 E. McCarty Ln.
San Marcos, Texas 78666

The number to call for hotel reservations is 512-392-6450. Be sure and tell them you are making your reservations for the Heart of Texas Reunion. The room rate is \$109 per night and includes a hot breakfast and daily Manager's Reception!! Check out the HOT web page on the ACCA website: <http://www.alamocitycorvair.com/hot2010.html> for all of the information and forms you need to register. Don't forget the event registration form (included with this newsletter and on the website). It must be completed and sent to:

Todd Girgus
c/o Master Mailing Services
3823 Thousand Oaks Dr.
San Antonio, Texas 78217-1951

Happy Anniversary To:

Carroll & Shirley Alford 51 years Feb 16

Happy Birthday To:

Mike Tidwell	Feb 5
Loretta Kelley	Feb 5
Charles Blanton	Feb 5
Chris Brown	Feb 12
Betty Protteau	Feb 16
Lani (Brittin) Lucero	Feb 21
John McCullough	Feb 27

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 Calendar

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
Feb 20	Pancake B'fast	Jannise's home	Sally Jannise
Mar 6	Brazoria CS	Brazoria, Texas	Jim Watkins
Mar 19	CH Club Meeting	Doss Park	T. Pomponio
Mar 20	Old Car Show	San Jacinto Mnmt.	Ed Murphy
Mar 27	Niftee 50tees	Spring, Texas	T. Pomponio
Apr 9	Heart of Texas	San Marcos, Texas	G. Wrobleiske
Apr 16	CH Club Meeting	Doss Park	T. Pomponio

Corvair Houston Officers & Board



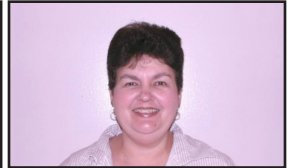
Tony Pomponio - President



Ricki Jannise - Vice President



Jon Protteau - Secretary



Sally Jannise - Treasurer



Ed Walsh - Director



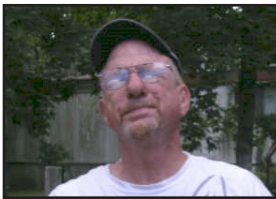
Mike Tidwell - Director



Todd Hasford - Director



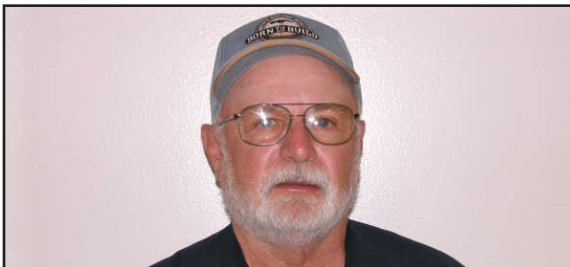
Brett Finley - Director



Alan Dunlap - Director



Mark Clarke - Newsletter



Jim Watkins - Events Coordinator, Photographer and Former President
THANKS, JIM!!

New Members

We have new members to announce this month!

01/15/2010: **Jerry & Jo Ann Miller**

Corvair: 1963 4-door Automatic

01/20/2010: **Michael & Carolyn Smith**

Corvairs: 1962 Loadside and 1963 Spyder

Welcome to you from all of us at Corvair Houston!

This will be **THE Catalog**
until 2013

Includes → All our **NEW** parts, **KITS**,
many improvements and updates.

Over 6 solid months
in the making!
updates on 80% of pgs!

Over
670 pages
1900 photos
1100 sketches

Over
500 exploded diagrams
15,000 parts listed
11,000 index entries

M - O - R - E

Clark Multi Kit choices

You need THIS Catalog!

► **HOW TO GET ONE?**

Rush Order - JUST THE CATALOG order over
the internet or by any of our regular methods
\$6.00 USA, \$8.00 Canada Foreign contact us

WITH a PARTS ORDER -
order CAT-O \$4.00 3 Lbs.

Clark's Corvair Parts, Inc.

400 Mohawk Trail, Shelburne Falls, Ma. 01370

413-625-9776

www.corvair.com



Corvair Classifieds

1966 CORSA

140 HP, 4 Speed, Red with Black Interior, Original, very nice car. Owner has original AC system, all parts, not installed. Asking \$7500.

Contact Zack Levitt at 713-818-9815

**1961 SEDAN**

A/C, bumperettes, buckets, 4 speed, 95 hp motor, etc. 15 year old restore with all receipts, red on red. All original in appearance. Looks, and runs real nice! \$6500 obo.

Jeff Taylor 949-395-7376 classicdad@cox.net

**1960 700 COUPE**

Red with white interior. Appears to be near Kountze, Texas - 90 miles E/NE of Houston. Contact seller (Tilly Barrington) direct. 409-246-3707 tbarrington@hughes.net

**WANTED!! PARTS...**

140 Secondary Carbs (any condition, as long as they're rebuildable) - 140 Linkage (Main Crossover only) - Headers for 140 - Good used Disc Brakes for 14" LM Wheels (front).

Contact David Brown, 713-410-9595 (c) or corvair69@gmail.com

1962 MONZA COUPE

Power Glide, headers, engine turns over- not sure if it runs, no title, needs paint, interior OK, all glass good. Parts or restore?

Call Ricky Dryden at 979-826-8374 (work) or 979-525-3462 (cell) for best offer (Waller, TX).

CH Dues Reminder

As always, our club dues expire at the end of the year and are due as of January 1st.

If you are a Corvair Houston member only, dues are \$25/year. If

you are also a CORSA member, your dues are \$20/year.

If you're not sure, contact Ricki Jannise as he has a current list from CORSA (281-259-2256,

rsjannise@gmail.com).


You can pay at the meeting(s) by cash or check or you can mail them to:

Sally Jannise at
13102 N. Decker Dr,

Magnolia, TX 77355-8461.

Please make checks out to:

Corvair Houston.

The March issue of the newsletter will be the last for those who have not paid their dues for 2010. 

Corvair Houston
 1907 Iron Ridge
 Sugar Land, TX 77478-4116

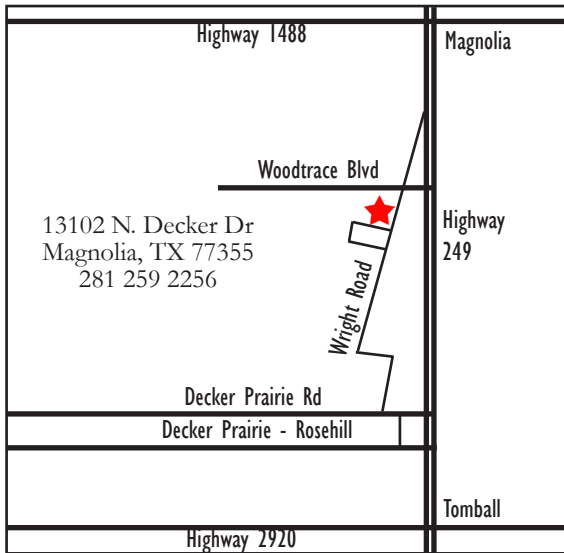


The Watkins - McCullough Corvair Fleet

Deliver to:

**CLUB MEETING TO BE
 HELD ON SATURDAY
 FEBRUARY 20TH AT
 PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

Directions: Ricki and Sally Jannise



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.

2010 Officers:

President	Tony Pomponio	281-974-5080
Vice President	Ricki Jannise	281-259-2256
Secretary	Jon Protteau	936-582-1228
Treasurer	Sally Jannise	281-259-2256
Director	Mike Tidwell	281-356-2043
Director	Todd Hasfjord	281-704-3848
Director	Ed Walsh	281-825-6361
Director	Brett Finley	832-717-7973
Director	Alan Dunlap	281-203-9977

Committees:

Membership & Library	Ricki Jannise	281-259-2256
Historian	Guy Bobkoff	713-666-0475
Merchandise	Dee Watkins	979-548-1313
Newsletter	Mark Clarke	281-217-8573
Events Coord./Photographer	Jim Watkins	979-548-1313
Car Locator	Guy Bobkoff	713-666-0475
Website	M. Clarke & D. Brown	281-217-8573
H.O.T. Chairperson	Greg Wroblekske	281-356-5542

CORSA CORNER

There has been a lot of talk lately about increasing CORSA membership and the future of CORSA, so I began to formulate a membership concept and a plan for the future, using ideas from many members. This is a quick overview of the end result. If you are interested in the complete plan, you can contact me at jtreinhart@omnitelcom.com and I will send you a copy.

Here is the first piece of the plan. As a CORSA member and Central Director I would like to be able to communicate and provide valuable services to as many people as possible. These services need to be paid for. This has been done two ways in the past, by members paying CORSA dues, and for chapters that don't have 100% CORSA membership, a chapters filing fee. The dues have been rising to offset the cost of services, but the filing fee has not. The fee is small and fixed, so it does not cover the CORSA provided services, mostly administration and insurance fees, for all of the non-CORSA members in some chapters. This has been a point of contention for many years, but I believe all members, CORSA and chapter members alike want to do their part and pay for the services they receive. There are three obvious ways to solve this problem. Raise the dues, change the filing fee to a per person fee, or mandate 100% CORSA membership from chapters. A better solution would be if we added more value to CORSA membership by adding a choice of three separately priced membership levels, and more services. Here is a short description of the membership tiers and the added services.

Tier 1 should be priced to make it cost effective for those who wish to participate in CORSA events, pay for their portion of CORSA insurance and administration fees, utilize the benefits of the CORSA website, and have a vote in CORSA business, but have no desire to receive a Communique. Tier 2 members will opt to receive an e-communique, instead of a printed issue, at a lesser fee than tier 3, with all the normal CORSA benefits, and Tier 3 members will receive a printed Communique and all the benefits they do presently.

This three tiered membership concept could eliminate the chapters filing fee, and help non-CORSA members become members. Chapters could add the minimal tier 1 dues onto the chapter's dues of their non-CORSA members, as a service fee. The member will automatically become a tier 1 member and receive the extra CORSA benefits. Or they could use the money slated for the chapter filing fee and some discretionary money, to sign up a few, or all their non-CORSA members.

To add greater value to all membership tiers, the CORSA website is being redesigned, and additional services are being added, namely a Corvair Wikipedia section and the Commscan Project. The Commscan project is a group of individuals dedicated to scan and create electronic PDF files of all CORSA publications from the last 40 years. It will include a word searchable index so members can find specific articles, or they may choose to use the files for just plain reading enjoyment. The Commscan project will take a considerable amount of time to complete, but will be well worth the wait. The Wiki will be available soon on the CORSA website for members to start downloading information into. Both projects will more than likely be placed behind the membership benefits area of the website, and only available to CORSA members. There will also be selected excerpts of each, on the public portion of the website, to act as a promotional tool and demonstrate the value of CORSA membership.

Because of the additional content, and the change in behavior of society to use more and more electronic communication, the CORSA website will become the most important piece for future communication and recruitment. Each piece of this plan creates a section of a large circle that will continue to link us together for many years, even if familiar services like the printed Communique or the International Convention cease to exist.

This plan includes changes, but they are needed to sustain CORSA. I have always been leery of change, but not afraid of it. Are you? Please feel free to contact me or any CORSA Director with your comments or concerns. Our contact information is in the Communique or on the CORSA website. Thanks

Jamie Reinhart

CORSA Central Director



HEART OF TEXAS REUNION

APRIL 9-11, 2010

Alamo City Corvair Association

Name _____ Spouse _____

Children (Name & ages) _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____ Phone # _____

Pre-Registration Fee: \$15.00 per adult OR family Total _____
(\$20.00 per adult or family after March 9, 2010)

Banquet Awards Dinner: \$20.00 per adult; Children aged 3-11 years \$10.00;

Children under 3 years - FREE Total _____

Names on Name Tags: (if different than above) _____

Check Club

Affiliation: CH _____ NTCA _____ ACCA _____ LSCC _____ Other(Name) _____

Car: -(Category – Early Open (EO), Early Closed (EC), Late Open (LO), Late Closed (LC), FC)

Year Body Style Color Category

1. _____

2. _____

3. Other: _____

T-Shirts: SM _____ MED _____ L _____ XL _____ XXL _____ \$15.00 ea x _____ = Total _____

SWAP MEET SPACE (free): YES _____ NO _____

TOTAL PAID _____

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: Alamo City Corvair Association

MAIL THIS FORM AND CHECK TO:
TODD GIRGUS
c/o MASTER MAILING SERVICES
3823 THOUSAND OAKS DR
SAN ANTONIO, TX 78217-1951
(210) 724-8801
Email address: tjgirgus@gmail.com

HOST HOTEL:
EMBASSY SUITES SAN MARCOS
1001 E. MCCARTY LANE
SAN MARCOS, TX 78666
TEL: 1-512-392-6450
Room rates for HOT \$109.00 + tax
Embassy Suites Online Booking:

8th Annual Brazoria County Charity Car Show
Saturday, March 6, 2010 ~ Hwy 36 & Smith (Old Brazoria Elem. School ~ Brazoria, TX 77422

Benefits the Boys & Girls Club and B.I.G. Love Cancer Care
 Pre-Registration Fee \$20.00 through Feb. 28, 2010 - Entry fee after Feb. 28, \$25.00

Registration form and Check may be mailed to: Danny Coppedge, PO Box 1502, Brazoria, TX 77422
 Make Check payable to BRAZORIA COUNTY CAR CLUB (BCCC)

REGISTRATION FORM

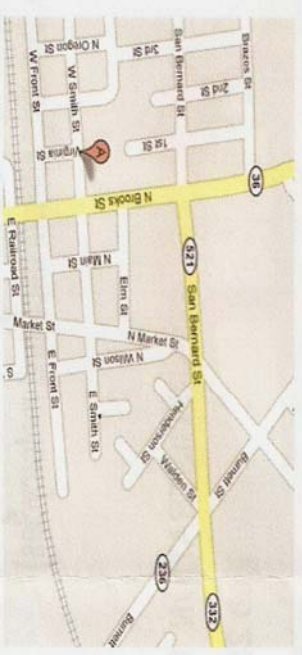
Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Telephone: _____
 E-Mail address: _____

Vehicle Information

Year: _____ Make: _____ Model: _____
 Club Affiliation: _____
 X: _____

Your signature indicates you have read and agree to conditions as follows: In consideration of the right to participate, entrants, participants and spectators, by execution of this form, release and discharge Brazoria Properties, City of Brazoria, Brazoria County Car Club, city officials and staff/employees, the officers and members of Brazoria County Car Club and anyone else connected with the management or presentation of the Brazoria County Charity Car Show, of and from, any and all known damages, losses, judgments and/or claims from any causes whatsoever that may be suffered by and person or property by entrance to this event. Further, each entrant agrees to indemnify all the foregoing entries, firms, persons and bodies from any and all liability occasioned or resulting from the conduct of entrants or any participant assistant cooperating with entrant and under direction or control of entrant. Further, each entrant agrees to abide by the policy as stated that no alcohol is permitted on property of the school for the purpose of the event.

Map



No BURNOUTS allowed in Parking Lot or when leaving the show