

Corvair Houston Newsletter



VOLUME 36, ISSUE I

JANUARY 2010

This month: Club meeting (Officers Election) - January 15th



Class Winning Greenbrier and the Corvair Houston Display at AutoRama 2009

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Driver's Seat

by Jim Watkins



Well it has been a year since I was elected president of Corvair Houston and it has been a very enjoyable time. It has given me an opportunity to get to know and work with other crazy Corvair people. I still don't know just how I got into the little car. I had never been around a Corvair, or even thought of them much, when I was growing up; never even had a friend or family member who had one. A man I worked for back in Idaho in 1963 bought a 1963 white Spyder Coupe for his wife and I saw it a couple of times. The first time I ever rode in one was back in 2007 when I test rode in one out in East Houston but it had too much bondo to buy. Then when I got my '63 white Coupe running that was the first

time that I had ever driven a Corvair. Now look at me, I have gone through 10 Corvairs and at the present time I have three at home now. I have found out that the Corvair was, and is, a really special car. I hope that the big collectors don't figure this out or I'll not be able to afford this new hobby any longer. You all know what the Corvair is so I'm not telling you anything new. I know that the ones that Dee and I have had have brought a lot of enjoyment to us and we have met a lot of nice people in the two years that we have been into Corvairs. It's also something that Dee has really enjoyed and that has made it really a lot more fun. Dee had a 1961 Corvair Coupe and a 1963 Spyder when she was younger and her Mother

also had a 1964 Coupe so she was interested in getting back into a Corvair.

Most of you have seen our newest acquisition in Corvairs, it's the 1964 Greenbrier. When Mike Tidwell and I drove to Tulsa, Oklahoma a couple of months ago to look at the stash of Corvairs and N.O.S. parts it was one of about 30 Corvairs that this guy had collected and stored over some thirty years. A Greenbrier was the very last thing on my mind of buying. I really didn't even like the looks of them. At the second warehouse that we went to, as he opened the door, here was this Greenbrier (*photo below - Ed.*). We had to push it out of the way so we could get into the warehouse to look at some of what he had: Spyders, Corsas, convertibles, hard tops and lot of N.O.S. parts. Somehow I look at the Greenbrier as something that we could take our daughter's family to a car show or whatever and we'd all be in one car. The Greenbrier has really

grown on all of us.

Our daughter and son-in-law have now joined Corvair Houston and CORSA and are the proud owners of the 1961 Rampside that I got on another road trip to Oklahoma last year.

The new board for 2010 will be elected at this month's membership meeting on January 15th at Doss Park. So, please, everyone try to make the meeting and cast your vote for the future of the Corvair club, we need you all. We'll have the election, talk about future activities that you would like to do and give out a few door prizes. Top door prize is \$50.00 cash.

Again, thank you for a great year for me and my family. 🙏

ON THE COVER

Six members of Corvair Houston presented their Corvairs: Jim Watkins' winning 'Brier, Carroll Alford's wagon, Brett Finley's Spyder, Bill Lush's 1960, Ed Murphy' 4door and Mike Tidwell's Ramp. 🙏



Rearview Mirror

by Jon Protteau



One of the warmest Novembers on record was followed by one of the coldest Decembers on record, but Corvair Houston members were too busy to notice the vagaries of Texas weather patterns. One week after donating and delivering three additional large screen TV's to the Veterans' Hospital, president Jim Watkins and board member Mike Tidwell went on a voyage of discovery to the wilds of Oklahoma to check a legend that Jim had heard about: a fair number of well-preserved Corvairs that might be for sale. They found that there were indeed, thirty or forty Corvairs that instead of rusting away in a field had been in climate-controlled storage and were in very good condition. In fact, Jim Watkins became so enamored with a low-mileage red and white '64 Greenbrier that he bought it that day, trailered it back, dusted it off, tuned it up, and entered it in the Houston Autorama to win first place in his

division. Jim and Mike brought back photos of some of the other Corvairs to show the members at the November meeting at Doss Park. The meeting was also used to finalize plans for the six-car club display at the 2009 Houston Autorama at the George R. Brown Convention Center.

This year's Autorama display consisted of Bill Lush's 1960 500 Club Coupe, Carroll Alford's 1962 Monza Station Wagon, Brett Finley's 1963 Spyder Convertible, Mike Tidwell's 1962 Rampside Pickup, Jim Watkins' previously-mentioned 1964 Greenbrier Van, and Ed Murphy's 1965 Monza Sport Sedan. (Note: Ed Murphy was fortunate to find this particular Sport Sedan because it is identical to his very first Corvair from many years ago. Sometimes you can go home again.) Our display area was in the center of the building, next to "Doc Hudson", a full size Hudson Hornet from the animated movie, Cars. As usual, there were plenty of

Corvair Houston volunteers to set up the display and tear it down again at the end of the show, because that's all part of the fun of belonging to a club like ours. (And there is no admission charge when you help with set up and tear down.)

One of the club's most popular activities is the annual Christmas party which was hosted again this year by Ricki and Sally Jannise at their home near Tomball. With thirty or forty members bringing covered dishes, there was a huge variety of great foods. Two of my personal favorites were Mike Tidwell's smoked turkey and Sally Jannise's macaroni and cheese, but it was all super. The drawing for Christmas gifts and the subsequent "theft" of those gifts was all part of the fun, and a good time was had by all.

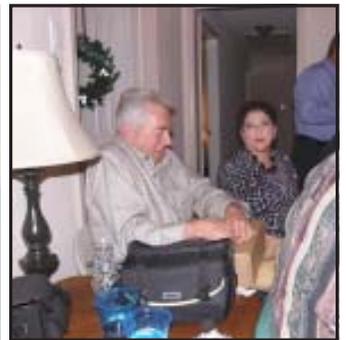
Also in December, the Corvair Houston Board met with Randy and Molly Shannon who produce the Niftee 50ees car shows every Saturday night from March through October at the Kroger store on Spring Cypress Road near Tomball. Randy explained the complexities of running a family-oriented car show with 300 – 500 cars on a weekly basis and asked for our help as a club. Since our club regularly attends the shows, the board members discussed making ourselves available to help the Shannons with parking and traffic control on an informal basis. If you haven't attended one of the Niftee 50ees shows, give it a try.

Since we have quite a few photos for this month's newsletter, we will save the animal story for another time.



Corvairs displayed at Niftee 50tees Car Show on Spring Cypress

Corvair Houston Christmas Party



the Corvair
Houston **Bulletin Board**

Corvair Houston Elections!!

It's nearing that time of year again...time to renew memberships for the next year and time to elect new club officers. The annual Corvair Houston club elections are held at the January regular club meeting (January 15, 2010). You don't have to register Democrat or Republican. There are no political parties in Corvair Houston; only Corvair parties!!

If you have a desire to serve your club as an officer simply express your desire at the January meeting and you will be nominated. See the list of officers on page 8.

Please be sure to attend the January meeting to let your voice and vote be heard!

New Members

We have new members to announce this month!

10/23/2009: **John & Jennifer McCullough**

Corvair: 1961 Corvair 95 Rampside (Bulldog)

Also joined by daughters Abigail and Madelyne

Welcome to you from all of us at Corvair Houston!

Happy Anniversary To:

Carroll & Shirley Alford 51 years Feb 16

Happy Birthday To:

Brett Finley	Jan 6
Audrey Tidwell	Jan 7
Roger Garrett	Jan 8
Costa Kouzounis	Jan 8
Mike Murphy	Jan 18
Alan Dunlap	Jan 18
Ed Walsh	Jan 21

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:



Corvair Houston Calendar

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>CONTACT</u>
Jan 15	CH Club Meeting	Doss Park	Jim Watkins
Feb 19	CH Club Meeting	Doss Park	Club President
Feb ??	Pancake B'fast	???	???
Mar 6??	Bellville CS	Bellville, Texas	???
Mar ??	Old Car Show	San Jacinto Mnmt.	???
Mar 19	CH Club Meeting	Doss Park	Club President
Apr 9	Heart of Texas	San Marcos, TX	G. Wrobleske

AutoRama 2009



Jim Watkins' Greenbrier



Carroll Alford's Wagon



Brett Finley's Spyder



Bill Lush's 1960 500



Set-up crew takes a break waiting for more Corvairs



Ed Murphy's Monza 4door



Mike Tidwell and his Rampside



Treasures found by Jim Watkins and Mike Tidwell in Tulsa, OK

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](mailto:Sally.Jannise@corvair.com). 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. ☺

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until 2013

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Clark's Corvair Parts, Inc.

400 Mohawk Trail, Shelburne Falls, Ma. 01370
413-625-9776 www.corvair.com

Corvair Classifieds

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).

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 CORVAIR

My mother has a 1961 Corvair, automatic, hard top, royal blue for sale. It has not been started in 20 plus years, so 4 flat tires and a dead battery, but the body is in good condition – it has been kept in a garage. Would anyone in your club be interested? Contact Jane J. Munoz, cell 832-331-5673 or email jmunoz@dodi.com

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

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



1960 FOUR DOOR

This is a FIND!!! One owner, NO rust, complete, \$1,000. Has been in the same garage since 1970. Can be seen at City Garage, Carmine Texas 1-979-278-3377 from 8:00 AM to Noon Monday thru Saturday or call Ray Rosenbaum 713-723-4441 for additional information...

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

Deliver to:



Corvair parts discovered in Tulsa, OK

CLUB MEETING ON FRIDAY THE 15TH - ELEC- TION OF OFFICERS - HOT INFORMATION

Directions: Doss Park



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 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.

2009 Officers:

President	Jim Watkins	979-548-1313
Vice President	Tony Pomponio	281-974-5080
Secretary	Jon Protteau	936-582-1228
Treasurer	Sally Jannise	281-259-2256
Director	Mike Tidwell	281-356-2043
Director	Gail Brown	281-579-9321
Director	Todd Hasford	281-704-3848
Director	Mark Clarke	281-217-8573
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	Ricki Jannise	281-259-2256
Photography	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 Wrobleske	281-356-5542