

# Corvair Houston Newsletter



VOLUME 37, ISSUE 7

JULY 2011

This month: Club Meeting on Friday, July 15th at Toyota Tech Center, Caravan to the CORSA International Convention in Denver, Colorado on Saturday, July 23rd



## Corvairs gather at the Feehery Party Barn

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# Driver's Seat

Hello, Corvair Houston! Here we are in July already; time flies when you're busy havin' fun! We all had a great time at Matt and Kim Feehery's El Rancho Neglecto on Lake Livingston; thank you so much, Matt and Kim!! Your hospitality is unequalled. I drove the '65 Monza convertible since the Corsa is at Demo's getting the door jams and underside of the deck lid and trunk painted, among other things. I should have it back by the time you read this; just in time to get ready for the trip to Denver!

This month's meeting is on Friday, July 15<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. Greg Wrobleske will host us at the Toyota Technical Center at 1375 Enclave Parkway in Houston, Texas 77077. From Interstate 10, between the Sam Houston Tollway and State Highway 6, turn south on Eldridge Parkway, then either turn left on Enclave Parkway and look for the Tech Center on the left (1-1/2 to 2 miles), or continue on Eldridge and turn left on Forkland Drive and look for Enclave Parkway; the Tech Center should be there. There are two

buildings on the left and the Technical Center on the right. As you drive in you will come to a stop sign; our parking area is behind the stop sign. Mike Tidwell will present a technical session and we will review the route for the caravan to Denver for the CORSA convention. Also, Greg Wrobleske will have some of Toyota's technology on display along with some interesting information. Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend this month's meeting since I will be on another trip to the tropical country of Brunei. Mike Tidwell

will conduct the meeting. I will return home on the 21<sup>st</sup>; just in time to pack for the convention trip!

Speaking of the CORSA Convention Caravan; we will depart the area early on Saturday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>. We'll rendezvous at the same old Jack-in-the-Box in Willis, Texas; Exit 94 off of Interstate 45 North (FM 1097). We plan to depart from there at 6:00am. That's right; 6 in the morning! Gotta get up early! This way we get most of our driving done before the day really heats up late in the afternoon; that's for those of us without air conditioning...yet. We will have overnight stops in Lubbock, Texas, Taos, New Mexico and Pueblo, Colorado before arriving in Denver on the 26<sup>th</sup>. Our return trip will start from Denver on

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## ON THE COVER

Corvair Houston held another meeting at the Feehery "Party Barn" which is quickly becoming a "favorite" club meeting location.



by Ricki Jannise



A group photo shot on the porch at El Rancho Neglecto

# Rearview Mirror

by Tony Pomponio



June was a relatively quiet time for Corvair Houston compared to some of our previous months. We had to come up for air sooner or later and I guess June was it.

Our June 17<sup>th</sup> monthly meeting was well attended and so were the number of Corvairs. The discussion for the evening included the upcoming trip by many CHers to the CORSA convention. The Corvair Houston Parts Dept. was officially started. As you may know, the club has set aside \$500 for the purchase of many parts that we all use at one time or another. This money was voted on by the club as required by our by-laws.

Mike Tidwell was able to purchase many items at cost and probably less than it would cost you. The idea is to have these parts (belts, plugs, points, etc.) readily available and not have to wait for the item to be shipped. The parts are sold at cost plus 10% which goes into the club treasury. One of the great savings is the sometimes expensive shipping costs. One of the things Mike Tidwell emphasized was the fact that if you need a part, call him first as he can probably get it cheaper and by the next day or two. Be it brake shoes or seals. One of the pictures included in this issue are the plastic

totes that Mike brought to the meeting. He sold quite a few items; as a matter of fact I bought two spare belts. The meeting was interrupted by the delivery of our meal for the evening – PIZZA! Those at the meeting chipped in \$5 per person and some of the female members drove to a local pizzeria for the goodies.

The next day, Saturday, many CHers gathered at the Jack-in-the-Box on I-45 North and the Willis exit for a trip to Matt and Kim Feehery's "Rancho Nuevo" for a day of relaxation and Bar-B-Que. I wasn't able to attend but was told all had a great time. I was also

told that a certain GPS took some folk on a wild goose chase through the hills and into a cemetery!

I know most of you are aware of the law in Harris County about being towed away if you break down on our wonderful "pot hole free" highways. I've always been concerned, when driving our Corvairs, about this particular law. We've all experienced a thrown fan belt at one time or another. Well, my concern was answered one Saturday in June. I was taking Gail's Corvair to Fresno to have the doors of her car aligned so that when we have it "pin striped" it would match.

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A solid turnout at the June club meeting



Another view of the Party Barn

# Driver's Seat

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by Ricki Jannise



Saturday the 30<sup>th</sup> arriving back in the Houston area on Sunday the 31<sup>st</sup>. We will discuss the trip in detail at the meeting.

Get ready for more activities for the summer. In August we will have our club meeting on August 19<sup>th</sup> at Mike Feehery's Party Barn again; that is a really great place for the meetings. There's a real good chance we will have a slide show of photos taken at the convention; don't miss it! Also, in August we will take a day trip to Galveston on Saturday, the 20<sup>th</sup>. We will meet at the Denny's Restaurant at Interstate 45 and the 610 loop (Woodridge exit off of 45) at 7:00am. We will depart after a hearty breakfast. Our first stop will be the Ocean Star drilling rig museum. The admission is \$8.00 per person and the tour takes about one hour or so. After the rig tour we can have lunch on the Seawall. For the afternoon we can take in the Lone Star Flight Museum; admission there is also \$8.00 per adult. We will conclude the day with a caravan back home.

For September our club meeting will be on the 16<sup>th</sup>. A location has not been finalized yet; we will let you know in next month's newsletter. A weekend trip to Corpus Christi is planned on September 24<sup>th</sup>. This will be an overnight trip. A rental van will likely be acquired; the rental and expenses will be split among the attendees. We will need an accurate head count so we get the appropriate sized van. Please let me know if you want to go! While in Corpus we will tour the World War Two aircraft carrier USS Lexington. Admission is \$13.95 for adults; check out the website, it looks like a lot of fun and they have coupons for \$1 off ([www.usslexington.com](http://www.usslexington.com)). There are many shops and antique stores we can also check out while in Corpus Christi, including a meal at the Boiling Pot Restaurant.

Our October activities will include a weekend camping trip to the Tee-Pee Motel near Wharton on the 14<sup>th</sup>. We will provide more information in later newsletters.

As mentioned in last month's newsletter, the helicopter business that Jim Watkins manages is offering to raffle a "Sunset Tour of the City". Raffle tickets will ONLY be sold at club meetings in July, August and September for \$5.00 per ticket. The winning ticket will be drawn at the September meeting and the trip taken at that time; yes, the meeting for September will likely be held at the hangar where Jim works. The proceeds will be split

between the club, to offset future Heart of Texas expenses, and a new motorized wheel chair for Chris Roberson; so come on out and buy many, many tickets...it'll be a fun ride! I'm gonna buy several tickets, and then see if I can talk Sally into getting into the helicopter.

I'm gonna get out of the way now and let you enjoy the rest of this fabulous newsletter. The current club membership count is 63 families.

See ya!



"Sunset Helicopter Tour of the City" Raffle (for 2)

Tickets are \$5.00 each

Tickets can ONLY be purchased at the July, August & September club meetings

Winning ticket to be drawn at the Sept. club meeting

# the Corvair Houston Bulletin Board

## New Members

A big Corvair Houston Welcome to our newest member!  
 Jaime Hinke (Email: [jghinke@gmail.com](mailto:jghinke@gmail.com))

\*\*\*\*\*IT'S NOT TOO LATE\*\*\*\*\*

If you have an interest in attending the 2011 CORSA International Convention in Denver, please contact Ricki Jannise or Mike Tidwell for more information. We would love to have more folks join the group that will be attending. We plan to stop in scenic Taos, New Mexico along the way. A number of folks in the group will be attending their first CORSA convention.

If you are unable to attend, please be sure to come to the August club meeting to view a slide show of the trip.

## Happy Anniversary To:

Ricki & Sally Jannise	35 years	July 10
Greg & Ronnie Riley	19 years	July 10
Jerry & Loretta Kelley	46 years	July 16

## Happy Birthday To:

Bill Ranshaw	July 1
Meredith Grimes	July 3
Jeff Moser	July 4
Julie Murphy	July 7
Jacy Jackson	July 13
Jim Watkins	July 14
Lloyd Jannise	July 18
Jerry Bell	July 25
John Pena	July 28
Carroll Alford	July 30

## 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](http://www.corvair.org)

## Corvair Houston Calendar

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
July 15th	Club Meeting	Toyota Tech Center	R. Jannise
July 23rd	CORSA Convention	Denver, CO	R. Jannise
Aug. 19th	Club Meeting	Feehery Party Barn	R. Jannise
Aug. 20th	Fun Run	Galveston	R. Jannise
Sept. 16th	Club Meeting	Location TBD	R. Jannise
Sept. 24th	Fun Run	Corpus Christi	R. Jannise

# Rearview Mirror

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Gail was following in our pick-up as were planned on leaving her Corvair overnight. I threw a belt on I-45 and the Quitman St. exit. I pulled over and fortunately the exit was under construction and barrels and barricades were up. Gail pulled in past the exit where the cop and construction crew were located. They both started towards me as I dug out the tools needed and a replacement belt. I started to loosen the nuts and began to replace the belt. I couldn't get the belt down below the pulley. I finally realized that Demo's had to move the engine to the rear when

I had a four-wheel alignment done which also required drilling out the 1963 motor mount I put in to accommodate air conditioning. I thought I was racing against the clock especially with the cop standing next to me as I burned my hands on the hot engine sheet metal. Finally, I got the belt on just as a wrecker drove up. He said he hadn't been called but was going North on I-45 and turned around to see if I needed any help. I tightened everything up and jumped in behind the wheel to get the car started. Whine and Whine but no start. I guess I flooded the "darn" thing.

Got out and we all looked into the engine compartment a little puzzled. The wrecker driver suggested that I plug in the coil wire. I guess in my haste I somehow unplugged the coil. Jumped back into the car and it started. I was soaking wet from sweating (and swearing according to my wife) and the increased adrenalin created by the cop and the wrecker. I think the cop and wrecker driver weren't really concerned about towing me away. But rather, they were admiring a classic car, one they may not have ever seen, especially the young cop. So off we go to Fresno. Got the doors

aligned and picked up the car Sunday. This time Gail drove the car home. The next day I start the car and the "idiot" light doesn't work. When the belt "blew" it cut the wire to the alternator. Thank God for Mike Tidwell. He came over, diagnosed the problem, connected the wires and that was that!

You guys must be getting tired of the escapades of Gail's car but I hope it brings a smile and a secret thought – "Gee, that happened to me but no one knows." Live well, Laugh often.



by Tony Pomponio



El Rancho Nuevo (aka El Rancho Neglecto)



Nature tour at El Rancho

# Corvair Classifieds

## Wanted: Late Body Panel for '66

Looking for a late body panel for 1966 Corvair. Need the complete unit from fender to fender and from trunk lid edge to trunk lid bottom. Contact Ruben Ruiz at 281-787-7398 or rubeneruiz@aol.com

## Wanted: Late Model Body Shell

Looking for a late model body shell. Prefer doors and glass still attached. Any condition. Will haul away at no cost to you. Contact Todd Hasford at 281-704-3848 or thasford@aol.com.

## Clark's Corvair Parts®

Clark's has been your supplier for quality repros for the past 37 years.

This year, we expect to reproduce even more parts for your Corvair.

*See the Supplement for the following:*

**VARIOUS NEW FC ITEMS**

**1964 TRIM      TURBO PARTS**

**STAINLESS GAS TANK SENDERS**

**LATE MODEL STEERING COLUMN**

**PARTS**

**650 Page 2007-2012 Catalog**

**USA - \$6    CANADA - \$9.95    Most Other Countries - \$12.95**

**Clark's Corvair Parts®**

400 Mohawk Trail, Shelburne Falls, MA 01370

**413-625-9776      FAX: 413-625-8498**

**www.corvair.com      email: clarksc@corvair.com**

## For Sale: 1965 Monza Convertible

White with white top, 110hp 4sp. New top, window gaskets, carpet and custom upholstery, three point seat belts in front and lap belts in the rear. This car is solid. You know this car; it has been to many out of town events and runs well. \$4,000. Contact Ricki Jannise 713-702-6716 or rsjannise@gmail.com.



This space is available for FREE Advertising. Contact the Editor at mwclarke01@hotmail.com to place ad.

## For Sale: 1962 Lakewood Station Wagon

Older restoration (2001), 102 hp, pg, Clark's interior, 450 miles on new tires. Asking \$5,000. Contact Carroll Alford at at 281-447-0027.



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

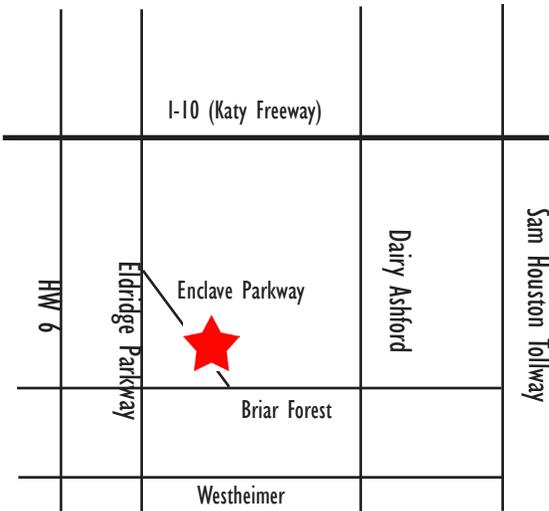
Deliver to:



Waymon poses at El Rancho's "guest house"

**CLUB MEETING TO BE  
 HELD ON FRIDAY  
 JULY 15TH AT  
 TOYOTA TECH CENTER**

Map to the Meeting Location  
 1375 Enclave Parkway



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.

2011 Officers:

President	Ricki Jannise	281-259-2256
Vice President	Mike Tidwell	281-748-4576
Secretary	Tony Pomponio	281-794-5080
Treasurer	Julie Murphy	281-251-8553
Director	Mark Clarke	281-217-8573
Director	Ed Walsh	281-825-6361
Director	Jim Watkins	979-548-1313

Committees:

Membership & Library	Ricki Jannise	281-259-2256
Historian/Car Locator	Guy Bobkoff	713-666-0475
Merchandise	Dee Watkins	979-548-1313
Newsletter/Website	Mark Clarke	281-217-8573
Events Coord./Photographer	Jim Watkins	979-548-1313
H.O.T. Chairperson	Greg Wrobleske	281-356-5542
Social Chair	Sally Jannise	281-259-2256
Technical Chair	Mike Tidwell	281-748-4576
Club Email	Tony Pomponio	281-764-5080