

Corvair Houston Newsletter



VOLUME 37, ISSUE 5

MAY 2011

This month: Club Meeting to be held at Wings & Wheels on Saturday, May 21st



Award winners proudly display their HOT 2011 trophies

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Driver's Seat

May already! April sure was a busy month! This year's Heart of Texas Reunion in Lakeway was great! Thank you Lone Star Corvair! Right after HOT we went to the Dewberry Festival in Cameron; another great weekend trip! Thank you, Dee for helping get us set up for this event! We actually took home a good share of awards and door prizes from there. See more in the Rearview Mirror article elsewhere in this newsletter. I know car clubs generally hate to see rainy days, which makes this spring perfect; but we really, really need some rain! I planted a fig tree

today and had to shovel a lot of dust to make a hole!

So, what's coming up for your club? By the time you get this we will have held our half-day run to Carlos and had lunch at Yankee's Tavern. Our club meeting for May will be held on Saturday, May 21st. The location is the 1940 Air Terminal Museum and their May Wings and Wheels event. Their theme this month is "Warbirds". I am looking forward to seeing some great old fighting machines! Not only do we get to hold our meeting and see the warbirds, but we get to show off our Corvairs as the "Wheels" part of

the "Wings and Wheels" event! The address is 8325 Travelair Street, Houston, Texas 77061. See their website: (<http://www.1940airterminal.org/index.php>). The plan is to meet for breakfast at the Telwink Grill at the corner of Telephone Road and Winkler (4318 Telephone Road, Houston, TX 77087-1447) at 7:00 a.m.. We will head over to the museum at 8:45 a.m. The folks at the museum have graciously offered their Theater Room for our meeting. The meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. so that we can get done by 10:00 a.m. The museum personnel need to set up the room for the event at 10:00 a.m.. After the meeting we get to enjoy the museum and airplane display. Admission into the museum for this event is \$10 per adult and \$5 per child 12 and under. This month we have a special treat: Gene Marshall is one of the founding members of Corvair Houston. Gene has agreed to attend our meeting and share stories of the beginnings of

your club. That should be an interesting discussion.

We are still putting on a pretty good display of Corvairs at the weekly Niftee 50ees Classic Drive-in Car Show in the Kroger parking lot on Spring Cypress at Champions Forest Drive. Come join us when you get a chance; the event is every Saturday evening from 5:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. Call a member of your Board of Directors for directions.

For June we have a couple of things going on. First, we will have a CORSA Convention caravan planning meeting on Sunday, June 5th at our house (13102 N. Decker Dr, Magnolia, 77355)

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ON THE COVER

Corvair Houston received a total of eight awards at HOT 2011 plus the Hard Luck trophy which was awarded to Ed Murphy. See the Rearview Mirror article for more details on the award winners and the respective categories.



by Ricki Jannise



"Peoples Choice" Winners - Cameron Dewberry Fest

Rearview Mirror

Continued from Page 3

by Tony Pomponio



WOW! What an April we had! The beginning of Niftee50ees Cruise-In on April 2nd, H.O.T. 2011 in Lakeway on April 15-17 and the Dewberry Festival and Classic Car Show in Cameron on April 30/May 1.

CH was a presence to behold at Niftee50ees. If memory serves me, I believe there were nine Corvairs on opening day. Not too shabby!

H.O.T. 2011 was a Hoot! Corvair Houston was well represented with 18 cars on display. They included: Ricki & Sally Jannise, Mark & Waynette Clarke (and Waynette's Mom & Dad), Tony & Gail Pomponio, Greg & Sandra Wrobleske, David Kescian, Charlie & Joy Blanton, Ed, Julie & Chrissy Murphy, Alan Dunlap, Todd Hasjford, Mike & Audrey Tidwell, Ron Holter, Chris Langley, Jim & Dee Watkins, Jerry & Loretta Kelley, Brett & Kelly Finley, Jerry & Jo-Ann Miller and Jon & Betty Protteau. Gail & Tony Pomponio and Brett & Kelly Finley drove two

cars to Lakeway. The car show at the Hill Country Galleria was a mixed bag as to how the cars were arranged but you do what you can with what you've got. All in all it was fun. The "long" fun run after the car show was great. The caravan was led by Mike Tidwell through the rolling hills of some of the prettiest winding roads in the area, going through Johnson City and return. I believe some 120 miles round trip. We returned to the Hampton Inn (host hotel) in time to tidy up a bit and head out for awards dinner at the Hill Country Pasta House. We dined on pasta (surprise!), grilled chicken breast, salad and desert. A cash bar was available for some adult refreshment. After dinner, door prizes were given out to the many holding winning tickets. The finale of the dinner came with the awarding of the many trophies on display. I must say Corvair Houston was a big winner taking eight trophies as follows: Ed Murphy – 1st Place

Scratch & Dent – Forward Control and Hard Luck Trophy (story follows below); Jon Protteau 1st Place Scratch & Dent – Open Early; Ron Holter 2nd Place Show – Forward Control; Kelly Finley 1st Place Show – Late Closed; Jerry Miller 2nd Place Show – Early Closed; Jerry Kelley 1st Place Show – Early Open; Gail Pomponio 1st Place Show – Early Closed. Now that's an impressive list. Congratulations to all of you!

Now for the story about Ed Murphy's Hard Luck Award. Ed and family were about three miles into the long fun run when his Forward Control started to smoke. We all pulled over and it was determined that he was blowing differential fluid. So he turned around

and returned to the hotel. Seems the differential fluid was blowing out of the fill tube as the breather vent was clogged. A quick fix and more fluid and all was well again with his F/C. He related this story at the awards dinner and all were asked if there were any other hard luck stories to compete with Ed's. Some guy in the back claimed he broke his fingernail while driving up but that didn't fly. I gave it a shot, what can I say? Anyway, pictures abound in this issue.

On Sunday, eight CHers gathered for the return trip to Houston including Gail and I. A pleasant and uneventful but scenic drive with a lunch stop at a Bar-B-Que in Giddings. When we stopped, Gail asked me a question – hoping the



A stop at The Roadhouse in Bastrop in route to HOT

Driver's Seat

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starting at 2:00 p.m. If you plan to attend the convention in Denver this year please come on out! Next, for June is our monthly club meeting on Friday, June 17th. Matt Feehery's brother, Mike, has once again graciously offered his Party Barn. Watch for more information in next month's newsletter. Also on the agenda is a renewal

of the summer road trip to Matt and Kim Feehery's El Rancho Nuevo (formerly El Rancho Neglecto) on Saturday, June 18th. We will rendezvous at the Jack-in-the-Box in Willis located at I-45 and FM 1097 at 10:00 am and caravan to the El Rancho. More information will be included in next month's newsletter. Matt and Kim, June is

your month. Thank you! For the months ahead we are planning other events. The CORSA Convention in July, a trip to Corpus Christi to see the Lexington in August, a tour of the Ocean Star drilling rig and Lone Star Flight Museum in Galveston in September, the annual camping trip in October and the list

goes on and on. Keep watching your newsletter as the months unwind.

The club treasury balance is currently at \$5,504.27. Our membership level now includes a total of 60 families. Please remember to recruit new members when you can! Hope to see you at the meeting!



by Ricki Jannise



Rearview Mirror

Continued from Page 3

answer was "Yes." Sadly I said no. Seems I placed the trophy on a lamp table in our room. While sitting in our room I gestured and hit the trophy but caught it before it hit the floor. To be on the safe side, I put it behind the lamp and low & behold went off without it. I called the hotel from Giddings and fortunately the trophy was found and arrangements were made for it to be mailed to Gail the next day. We did get the trophy on Wednesday via UPS. A Happy ending!

Now on to the Dewberry Festival and Classic

Car Show! CHers drove to Cameron arriving at various times and gathered at the Wilson-Ledbetter Park for the car show. We registered our cars and sat around discussing world affairs munching on some of the great food available. Let's see now, there was Dee/Jim Watkins with daughter Jennifer and granddaughters Abigail and Madelyne, Audrey/Mike Tidwell, Sally/Ricki Jannise, Mary/Greg Fox, Waynette/Mark Clarke, Jon Protteau, Gail and I, and Ed Walsh. Not a bad turnout for Corvair Houston. According to

the Cameron Car Club (they sponsored the show) there were 71 entrants. At approximately 2PM we all gathered around the judge's tables for the awards. The first one to win from CH was Mary and Greg Fox – they walked away with 2nd Place for best original 1955-64. Then came Sally and Ricki Jannise for 2nd Place for best original 1965-2011, followed by Ed Walsh for 2nd Place for best original truck 1965-2011. But the piece of resistance, or is it Piece de resistance (with a French accent) came when Dee and Jim

Watkins won the People's Choice Award. Are we a force, or what? The day came to a close with most of us caravanning to Bob's Steak House for a scrumptious dinner with all the trimmings and some adult refreshments. The night ended with CHers gathered around the hotel swimming pool. You would think the story ends there but Mike and Mark decided to go for a swim, Mike in my bathing suit and Mark in his jeans. Was the water cold? You'll have to ask Mike and Mark. Live well, laugh often.



by Tony Pomponio



the Corvair Houston Bulletin Board

Wings & Wheels - May 21st

Display your Corvair, enjoy the museum and all the beautiful aircraft!! Join us on the third Saturday of May at the 1940 Air Terminal Museum at William P. Hobby Airport. See the map on the back page. The address is:

9325 Travelair Rd
Houston, Texas 77061

We meet at the museum at 9:00 am. for the monthly club meeting. Be sure to attend as we have a special guest speaker (Gene Marshall, a founding member of Corvair Houston) who will provide some interesting stories about how the club was formed. Admission is \$5.00 per person when displaying a car and includes lunch. Join us for breakfast at The Telwink Grill at 7:00 am located at Telephone Rd and Winkler. Check out the museum website: <http://www.1940airterminal.org/>

Happy Anniversary To:

Geary & Deborah Grimes	28 years	May 13
Ron & Linda Holter	5 years	May 23
Matt & Kim Feehery	27 years	May 26

Happy Birthday To:

Jeanelle Moser	May 4
John Spenn	May 17
Shirely Alford	May 20
David Hopkins	May 20
Madelyne McCullough	May 22
Kay Freeman	May 23
Matt Feehery	May 24
Jo Ann Miller	May 24
Ray Rosenbaum	May 27
April Grimes	May 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

Corvair Houston Calendar

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
May 21st	Wings & Wheels	Air Terminal Museum	R. Jannise
June 5th	CORSA planning	Jannise's home	R. Jannise
June 6th	Board Meeting	TGI Fridays HW 290	R. Jannise
June 17th	Club Meeting	Feehery Party Barn	R. Jannise
June 18th	Fun Run/Outing	El Rancho Nuevo	M. Feehery
July 15th	Club Meeting	Toyota Tech Center	G. Wrobleiske

HOT 2011 Dinner Dynamics

by Brett Finley



Fresh from a 3.5 hour “power nap” Kelly and I hopped in her ermine white and red 66 sedan and toiled down to the Hill Country Pasta House overlooking the bandstand and Tony Pomponio’s hopponhipopotamus (see photo on back page) to join our esteemed Corvair kinfolk for the 15th annual hoe down and hootenanny aka: Heart of Texas Corvair Reunion 2011. Thanks to Alan Dunlap, Mike Tidwell, Ed Murphy, Jim Watkins and a virtual who’s who in Corvair Houston restoration, repair and all around good guys (and the gals who love us for reasons yet unknown) Kelly’s ‘Vair turned out quite lovely, safe and comfortable and except for an apparently isolated battery terminal connection glitch it performed flawlessly for us all weekend long.

Special K and I ambled down the hill to the outdoor pavilion to join our fellow Corvairians from as far away as Kansas to enjoy a meal of genuine Hill Country Pasta, chicken, salad, bread and dessert and to

celebrate once more the magic of this camaraderie. We sat nestled between the Clarke clan table to our left and the Tidwell troupe to our right at the back of the pavilion where we proceeded to enjoy our hosts hospitality. Seated with us were Ed Walsh, Todd Hasfjord, Chrissy, Julie and Ed Murphy, and Jon and Betty Protteau (also known as the “Prattbergs” as the evening progressed when the emcee apparently misread or misinterpreted their name when calling out the dozens of awards Mr. Prattberg won throughout the evening.)

We certainly enjoyed

quite a while laughing it up over the antics of the day and celebrating the numerous recognitions our tablemates accumulated as the evening progressed. Top flight S&D F.C. award and 2011 hard luck (but fortunately not too hard) award both going to the Murphwagon along with a tailgating kit and even a framed picture of fervent Corvair enthusiast R. Nader courtesy of some guy with a Boston accent seated next to us. Our tablemates the Prattbergs proceeded to win every other door prize for the course of the evening, amassing an amazing stash of oil filters, fan belts, wine

doodads and thingamajigs as well as a trophy for old blue in the early open class. I was even quite honored and very flattered when Special K’s jalopy was announced as winner of this years late model closed show class!! Kelly has worked hard at putting up with me shuffling the car all over creation since we obtained it last year trying to get it in excellent shape and working order for this years H.O.T.

This is the very first year Kelly and I were able to attend the H.O.T. and hopefully it will not be our last. Even though we did have to sit out the scenic tours and I had to rest a lot (chemotherapy just simply beats the daylight out of you) we certainly had a GIGANTIC time and laughed so much we possibly dampened our depends. Nonetheless, we are so very proud and honored to be a part of the Corvair Houston family and an honorary part of the Austin and central Texas, Alamo and NTCA extended families as well.



A shot of the crowd at the “Prattberg” table

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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 Hasfjord at 281-704-3848 or thasfjord@aol.com.

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For Sale: 140 hp freshly rebuilt engine

Freshly rebuilt engine with a spider intake and 4 barrel carburetor. Rings, bearings lifters and gaskets all replaced and a fresh valve job on the heads. New coil and plugwire set. It has 55 psi oil pressure. Asking \$1,000.. It's strapped to a pallet right now. It comes with a set of headers. I have a video of it running if anyone is interested drop me an e mail. I was going to list it on e bay but thought I'd give the club members a shot at it first. The truck freight would be huge for out of state. Contact Jerry Bell at momandpop@livingston.net.

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.



HOT 2011 Dinner Dynamics

by Brett Finley



We were quite impressed not more so about how with the wonderful as- pleasant and wonderful- ssembly of so many very the folks who preserve nice and very impressive and keep these little won- Corvairs to be sure but- ders running truly are. We were as impressed if hope everyone had a safe

and uneventful trip back to your respective homes and that we will see ev- eryone again next year for another delightful reunion (hopefully chemotherapy

free next time!) Remember, it's not just a hobby...it's a HOOT! Any old junker can pump water.. we seek people who rule the wind.



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

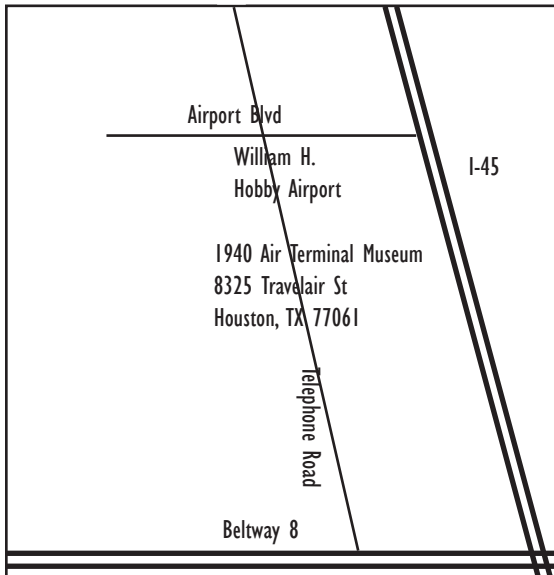
Deliver to:



Everyone (especially Tony) had fun at HOT

**MEETING TO BE HELD ON
 SATURDAY AT 9:00 A.M. AT
 THE 1940 AIR
 TERMINAL MUSEUM**

Directions: 1940 Air Terminal Museum



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