

Fanbelt Flyer

*The Monthly Newsletter of the Oldest Continuous
Corvair Club in the World!*

March 2017

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From the President's Garage - By David Dean

A couple of weeks ago, I received a t-shirt from the Corvair Owners Group, an online network of enthusiasts that operate on Facebook. Allen Amrine moderates this group of over 4,500 Corvair owners worldwide and uses t-shirt sales to offset some of the costs associated with this social networking enterprise. When I opened the package, there were a couple of postcards of Corvairs included. These are part of the collectible memorabilia of our hobby; and I was intrigued by the possibilities.

Although postcards in various forms have been around since as early as the 1860s, picture postcards in the United States began with the souvenir issues sold at the World Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893. The hobby of postcard collecting, deltiology, began soon after. The Columbian Exposition cards proved to be so successful, that publishers in other parts of the country were emboldened to issue views featuring large cities, historic landmarks, and popular vacation resorts. Like the exposition cards, these were also well received.

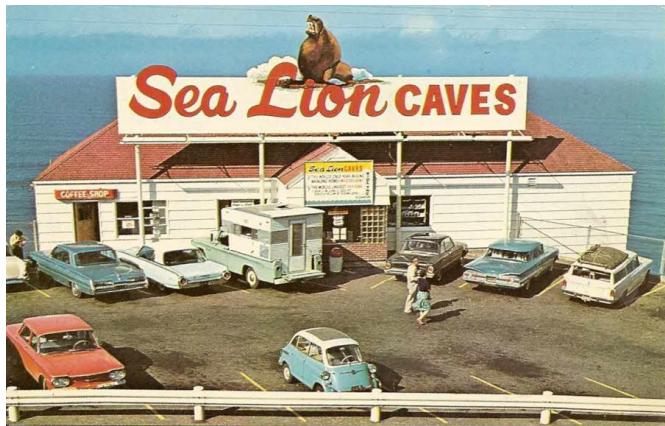


Modern photochrom-style postcards first appeared in 1939 when the Union Oil Company began to carry them in their western service stations. Production of the postcards slowed during World War II because of supply shortages, but after the war, they dominated the postcard market. The photochrom postcards are in color, and their images closely resemble photographs. As I looked carefully at the image of the 1962 Monza (pictured above) postcard

included in my package, I was impressed by the setting and details. Postcards were used by automakers to help attract attention to new model years, and to promote the culture of automobile ownership. Notice the sophisticated lifestyle of the cosmopolitan urban couple out for an evening in their 1966 convertible. These too became highly collectable as they detail American automobile culture.



Collectors also look for postcards where Corvairs happen to appear. In this souvenir example from the Sea Lion Caves in Oregon, we see an early model in the lower left corner. Another appears parked on the street as a cable car goes by from this iconic San Francisco postcard. During the great era of motoring in



America, it was common to see many roadside inns like the Ranch Motel on US Highway 62 near Lawton, Oklahoma commemorated in postcard fashion. They too feature Corvair cameos prized by memorabilia collectors. In the 1990s the advent of e-cards and email started the decline of the postcard's popularity. Today postcards are typically purchased as souvenirs, rather than a quick way to send a note home. As I reflect on the two cards included with my t-shirt order, it is easy to see how even in postcard form, our cars foster nostalgia for things past and encourage the collectability of all things Corvair.



This Month we celebrate St. Patrick's Day and the coming of Spring. It is a great time to get your car out with other enthusiasts making the postcards of the future via social networking. Please join fellow club members at Catch-a-Wave Car Show in Tempe, March 18th. We also have some exciting events in April so mark your calendars now. As always, when you are out with your car or if you are working in the garage, take a few proud pictures of your and send them in. We have room to feature your car in our newsletter. Send your pictures to Marian D marian777@cox.net with a brief explanation and we will add it to the club happenings. In addition to the worldwide Corvair Owners Group on Facebook, look for Arizona Corvair Gatherings for local meet-ups, cruise-ins, and share what we are doing with our cars.

Happy motoring,
David "Doc" Dean

Secretary's Report by Dave Wenzlick: Cactus Corvair Club Meeting February 1stⁿ 2017

Secretary's Report Feb 1st 2017

The meeting was opened at 7 PM by club president David Dean.

Gary S. moved that we accept the January secretary's report as published in the February newsletter. Jim J. seconded the motion and it was approved by members. Joe L. updated the Treasurer's Report that was published in the newsletter because it contained an error. We began the month with a balance of \$2635.71. After deducting for postage and adding membership renewals we ended the month with a balance of \$2805.91. Gary S. made a motion for approval, Bob R. seconded the motion and it was approved as amended.

Old Business

David Dean reminded everyone that the Caliente Clowns Car Show is coming up on February 18. Anyone who wants to caravan to Florence from the Apache Junction area should meet at the Basha's grocery at Kings Ranch Road and US 60 at 7 AM. The caravan will roll out by 7:30 so that they will arrive at the show around 8 AM. Attendees are reminded to submit an entry form by February 11. There is no entry fee except a request to donate children's pajamas, underclothes, socks, etc. that can be used by the Pinal County foster children program. Entries received before February 11 will be guaranteed free lunch for each driver. The show director will usually let a park all the Corvairs together if they know in advance how many will attend so please send in your entries. You can download an entry form on the club website.

The Catch-a-Wave car show in Tempe is coming up on March 18. The show coordinator has offered to set aside a special area for Corvair vehicles. Last year, club members Dick, Joe, Dave and Cathy attended and had a nice parking area on the grass fields with shade nearby. There are a variety of vendors and it's a well-attended show with several hundred quality vehicles. A suggestion was made to donate \$250 to the Boys and Girls Club which is the charity supported by the Kiwanis club which host the event. After discussion, a motion was made by John S. to not make a donation. Gary S seconded the motion and the motion passed.

A suggestion was made by David Dean that the club should attend the Chevy Showdown in Tucson on April 8 instead of the Lost Dutchman spring picnic planned for that same day. This was partly due to the fact that everyone in the Tucson Corvair club is going to the Chevy show instead of coming up to our picnic. Members at the meeting agreed this was a good idea to help support the Tucson club who often attend our events in Phoenix. John S. will attempt to get a refund on the \$30 deposit placed with the Lost Dutchman state park. Dave W. will post information about the Tucson Chevy show on the website including an entry form. At the next meeting we will announce a gathering point so that everyone from Phoenix can travel together to the event in Tucson.

With the canceling of the Lost Dutchman state park picnic, a suggestion was made to have a picnic on April 1 somewhere that would be more central to the Phoenix area. A suggestion was made by Diane R. for the McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park in Scottsdale. Dave W. suggested the Indian Bend Wash Park. Both locations are in Scottsdale in close to the Scottsdale Pavilions where the big car show is held every

Saturday night. It was suggested after the picnic that everyone could caravan to the car show. Dave W will look into both locations and report back.

New Business

David Dean brought in his copy of the latest CORSA newsletter to show was an article written about all the chapter websites. While the Cactus Corvair Club website did not place in the top three, one judge did place us in the top five. Dave W was congratulated for maintaining the website.

Dave W announced recommended changes to website security that might have required us to purchase a security certificate annually at a cost of roughly \$60-\$85. This is an added expense that is really not necessary since we do not conduct sales on the site or collect any credit card information. By removing a few of the simple contact forms and dropping the password protection (additional \$60 annually) it will save the club around \$120 per year. John S motioned to drop password protection and not purchase an SSL security certificate. Miner F seconded the motion and membership. Dave W will make the changes to the website.

In order to more accurately report the club financial information, David Dean announced that the Treasurer's Report will first be reported at the club meetings and then will appear in the newsletter. This will place a 30-day delay on the report but will more accurately detail the numbers. Membership agreed this was a good idea as it will also prevent delays to the newsletter mailing because we were usually waiting on month-end statements from the bank.

Linda C reminded everyone attending the national convention this summer to make your room reservations soon. The hotels are filling up fast. She also mentioned there are many interesting local tours as well as all the Corvair events at the show so attend if you can.

One visitor attended the meeting, John H, who was a previous member many years back. He rejoined the club and has a 66 Corsa, a 63 camper van, a 63 Rampside and a 63 Spyder.

Joe L mentioned a car show at Falcon Field on March 25th. It is the Impala Bob's car show that is held at the Falcon Field Airport. Entry information is on the club website. The show is limited to the first 160 entries so be advised. This is not the monthly cruise-in pancake breakfast that is held once a month through the winter. This is a regular car show with awards and entry fees.

Joe L also reminded everyone about the Salt River Fields Food Truck Festival coming up on February 11. This event is just north of the big Scottsdale Pavilions cruise in car show location. Braden P. cautioned that the parking area is extremely dusty and it might not be a great place to park your classic car all day.

Club Treasurer Joe L reminded members that we have a CD deposit that will mature in the spring of 2018 and that we might want to move it to another fund as opposed to letting it roll over. We have plenty of time to act but the board should prepare to make a recommendation when the time approaches. Braden P reminded everyone of the 15th Annual Chester's Classic Car Show to be held on March 4 near 7th Avenue and Melrose. He said they will be attending and invited others to join in. There is also a street fair in conjunction with the car show. Advance registration is \$15. It goes up to \$20 the day of the show if they have space available. Information is on the club website.

Dave W purchased club banners last year and bought extras for a few club members. One banner was remaining for sale at the meeting and the membership moved and approved to purchase the banner for \$35. This is a 3' x 4' banner that we can display outside the meeting room or at other club events.

Tech Topics

David Dean brought in two damaged cylinder heads from his engine rebuilding escapades. He had an entertaining presentation of the many things that can go wrong inside a Corvair engine. One head showed obvious damage from a dropped valve seat which is a common affliction on our old cars. The other head had a twisted off stud that can probably be salvaged after some professional repair.

Dave W brought in an endoscope that plugs in to most smart phones, tablets or laptops. It had a tiny camera on the end that could be inserted inside an engine through the spark plug hole to look for trouble. It had six tiny LEDs to help illuminate the area being photographed. It is waterproof and on a cable that is over 15 feet long. You could also use it in your house to look inside of pipes or walls. The camera was turned on so that you could come up an experiment with it. You can purchase them on Amazon or eBay for around \$15. He had an extra one for sale and it immediately sold. The model info is; iWonow® 7mm Lens Android OTG Micro USB Endoscope Waterproof Borescope Inspection Tube Camera.

The 50/50 raffle was won by John H. The meeting adjourned at 8 PM.

-Dave Wenzlick

Treasurer's Report January 2017 (Updated) by Joe Lewis

Beginning Balance as of	12/31/2016	\$2,635.71
INCOME		
	50-50	\$24.00
	RENEWALS	\$165.00
	NEW MEMBERS	
		\$
EXPENSES		
	Stamps	\$(18.80)
		\$
ENDING BALANCE	1/31/2017	\$2,805.91
PENDING CHECKS		
Pending Deposits		
BOOK BALANCE	1/31/2017	\$2,805.91



Why are 1960 Corvairs called 'Caveman' Cars?

Introduced in January 1960, there were two Corvair coupes offered: The Corvair Club Coupe, (527) priced at \$1,810 and the Corvair 700 Club Coupe (727) just \$60 more. Then there was the Corvair Monza 900 Club Coupe (927), priced at \$2,238. This was a jazzy, sportscar(ish) version that inspired Ford to move ahead with their Mustang program. The car had an all-vinyl interior, bucket seats in red, turquoise, blue, or green; and came standard with front and rear carpeting, fold-down rear seat, back-up lights, stainless-steel trim on upper door frames and rear-window openings, stainless steel rocker-panel moldings, wheel covers, chrome-plated simulated air vents on the rear deck, and a Monza nameplate on the lower front fenders.

Other standard feature included a deluxe steering wheel with horn ring, white vinyl headliner and two sun visors, special door and window handles, rear-seat ash trays, chrome trim on the dome light and review mirror bracket, cigarette lighter, glovebox light, chrome-based front arm rests, anodized glove box door applique with chrome frame and Monza name in gold. Optional whitewall tires with narrow band design were available and the choice of nine different paint colors.



Chevy entered an experimental version the car in the Chicago Auto Show that featured a sunroof, wire wheels, and an upgraded interior, front bumper grille, and dual exhaust. From May through the end of the model year, the Monza sold only about 2,500 fewer units than the 500 version sold all year.

The 1960 model, also known as the "Caveman" car, earned its nickname from the unique styling of the front concave grille area. The 1961 the Corvair had a significant number of changes. So the 1960 car is considered somewhat unique and has a loyal following for being different from other Corvairs.

Most of the 1961 changes were NOT to correct problems with the model line; rather, they were a response to the Ford Falcon. For example, Ford claimed the Falcon trunk was larger - so on the 61 Corvair the spare went to the rear and the front panel was bumped out not for style, although it looked good, but to make

1960 CORVAIR



by J Lawson

the Corvair trunk advertised volume BIGGER. Ford claimed the Corvair's gasoline heater meant poor mileage in the Winter - so in 61 the Corvair got an engine air heater and the gasoline heater was optional. Ford also claimed the Falcon had the bigger engine (144 c.i.). In response the 1961 engines increased from 140 c.i. to 145 c.i. (hardly a difference, but it was now BIGGER than the Falcon). For inexpensive cars, Ford and Chevrolet put a lot of money into changes to advertise advantages of one over the other.

Tool Review by Dave Wenzlick

Cheap Endoscope Camera for your Smartphone, Tablet or Laptop.

At the February Cactus Corvair club meeting I demonstrated a small camera that can come in handy sometimes when doing engine diagnosis or just looking into tiny places where you wish you could see. These cameras are readily available online through sources such as eBay or Amazon.com. I paid \$15 for the example in the photos below. They are available with different length cords although the price is not much different between those versions. This cord is about 16 foot in length and it includes a USB adapter in case you don't have a micro-USB on your device. The camera is powered through the cord from your device. The rectangular block in the cord only houses the thumbwheel used to adjust the lighting level of the LEDs. These cameras are available for a variety of operating systems. The one shown below is set up to plug directly into a smart phone running the Android operating system. I did not use the software that came with the camera. Instead, I downloaded a free app called "CameraFi" because I had seen many comments from other users that said that was the better and easier choice. I downloaded the app through the Google Play Store and in about three minutes was using the camera. Occasionally, my phone would not detect the camera had been plugged in and in those cases I removed and reinsert the plug and then it worked fine.



Tool Review *(continued)*

The six LEDs around the camera lens do a pretty good job of lighting up the target area. There is a thumbwheel control on the cord that lets you adjust the light level. This is not a high-resolution camera but it works pretty well considering the low cost. It uses a fixed focus lens but it does have an auto-iris function. Don't expect quality photos that you can blow up to poster size. It definitely has good enough resolution to detect holes in pistons or other such maladies when looking through a spark plug hole. This is not a "must have" kind of tool for your garage but it is a neat little toy that could come in useful. To find an endoscope camera for your device just search Google or Amazon as they are easy to find. The photos show the camera and all accessories as it was delivered to me.

The photo below is a screen shot from my smart phone that shows a look inside of one of my turbochargers.



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About Us:

While a salesman at Rudolph Chevrolet in Phoenix Arizona, Lou Grubb decided there were possibilities in an inexpensive, economy car produced by the Chevrolet Division, the Corvair. He sent letters to recent Corvair buyers and devotees alike inviting them to a social dedicated to appreciation of the car. With a promising response, discussion turned to organizing a new sports car club. With hasty planning, the first event was an economy run put together by a group of rookie enthusiasts who later became the first members of Cactus Corvair Club after its Constitution was signed in October 2, 1963. We are the oldest, continually active, Corvair club in the world!

As part of the Phoenix Chapter of CORSA (Corvair Society of America) we hosted our first regional mini-convention in April of 1976. People from all over the country came, with an estimated 90 cars and 150 people attendees. The event included autocross, a concours show, driving tour of the Valley of the Sun, and a "Fiesta banquet.

The Cactus Corvair Club hosts an annual All-Corvair show in early October, participates in classic car shows throughout the year (usually benefitting local charities), and supports classic car events, museums, and organizations dedicated to the preservation and public education of our automotive history. We are a community of car enthusiasts; all our events are family oriented and we are excited to meet you.

Club Officers		Board Members:
President	David Dean dr.dean@cox.net	John Seamen
Vice President	Jim Johnson	Mary Seaman
Treasurer	Joe Lewis	Miner Fleming
Secretary	Dave Wenzlick	Gary Sudbeck

Webmaster Dave W. dave@rcaz.com

Newletter Editor Marian Dean. marian777@cox.net

Librarian Miner Fleming

Membership Dues:

Cactus Corvair Club
c/o Treas. Joe Lewis
5811 W Park Ave
Chandler, AZ 85226

Arizona Corvair Gatherings



CORSA Chapter
#850

Meeting room generously provided by:

Earnhardt Chevrolet
2121 N. Arizona Ave.
Chandler, AZ 85225

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- March 1 Regular Club Meeting - Earnhardt Chevrolet
- March 4 [4th Annual Caliente Clowns Car Show in Florence](#)
 New Date!
- March 18 [13th Annual Catch-a-Wave Car Show in Tempe](#)
- April 5 Regular Club Meeting - Earnhardt Chevrolet
- April 8 [32nd Annual Chevy Showdown in Tucson.](#)
- April 22 [Spring Corvair Picnic @ Eldorado Park](#)



We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.cactuscorvairclub.com

Monthly Meetings

*Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month
 (except for June, July and August)*

*Location is at [Earnhardt Chevrolet 2121 N. Arizona Ave -
 Chandler AZ 85225](#)*

*Meetings start at 7PM. Driving a Corvair is encouraged
 but not required.*

Cactus Corvair Club
5811 W. Park Ave
Chandler, AZ 85226



Customer Name
 Street Address
 City, ST ZIP Code
