

# Fanbelt Flyer

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

May 2017



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## From the President's Garage - By David Dean

*"No Winter lasts forever, no Spring skips its turn. April is a promise that May is bound to keep, and we know it."* —Hal Borland. And we know that promise includes warmer, WARMER, yes dare I say it, HOT weather. While many clubs across the country are just bringing their cars out of winter hibernation, we here in the Southwest, relegate ours to evening outings when the weather is cooler. Soon we will nestle our cars into the garage until our active calendar returns in September. Until then we still want to drive our cars as much as possible and I encourage you to brave as many early mornings and evening outs as possible in the next month or so.

April was a huge success for our club. In addition to the regular club meeting, we had Corvairs in Tucson on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 14 cars at the annual Spring picnic in Scottsdale on the 22nd. As always we appreciate each of your efforts as an ambassador for the club. We continue to look for ways to connect to new Corvair owners that may not know about us, and encourage a new generation to take interest in the Corvair as an important part of automotive history.

I want to give a special thanks this month to the Tucson Corvair Club for both hosting a terrific event in Tucson and joining us for our annual picnic two weeks later. The All Chevy Show in Tucson was a fun event and it was great to see a nice blend of both clubs supporting this well-organized event. Additionally, we were excited to have Tucson join us for the picnic, bringing up three cars and venturing to McCormack Ranch and the Pavillions in the heat of the day. We were glad they made it back home with relatively little trouble. Thank you Dave, Mike, Ron, Bill, and all of the Tucson Club for their support.

Additionally, I want to recognize Dave W. for his coordination of the Annual Spring Picnic event at Eldorado Park in Scottsdale. He scouted the location, managed the reservation paperwork, and was again first on scene with that Corvair sail banner letting everyone know where to park. Everyone expressed their compliments on the venue as we lined up 14 'vairs and enjoyed a terrific day of fellowship with our Corvair family.



Finally, I want to thank John S., Dave W., Gary S. and everyone who has provided advice, encouragement, parts, and moral support over the last year for my efforts on my own cars. Were it not for your expertise and experience my car would not be back on the road after 16 months in the garage. I have been through three motors, two transmissions, and a host of new and refurbished parts to get my 'Belle' back on the road. I was pleased to bring her out for the April events and look forward to driving her around as I continue to work on my other Monza. Please indulge me to show off a couple of pictures of my 1965 Monza 110 Coupe:



May brings us to the close of our active calendar. There will be no regular Club meetings during June, July and August. We hope to stay in touch though through an occasional e-mail or update to the Cactus Corvair website.

Happy motoring,  
David "Doc" Dean

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### **Cactus Corvair Club Meeting April 5th 2017 Secretary's Report by Dave W:**

Meeting was called to order at 6:59 PM by President David Dean. David apologized for the lateness of the newsletter and had extra printed copies to distribute to members in attendance.

The Secretary's Report was accepted as printed in the newsletter. Joe L made the motion to accept the minutes and Jim J seconded. The motion was approved by members.

Joe L presented the Treasurer's Report. The ending balance for the month was reported as \$1976.59. Joe detailed the \$250 donation to the Kiwanis Club at the Catch-A-Wave car show. Joe explained that while the donation was made in the name of Cactus Corvair Club, the funds did not deduct from the club treasury. The funds were collected from individual club members who wanted to make a donation at the show. The club received a very nice thank you letter from the Kiwanis Club indicating that the full amount donated will be going to a local middle school program in Tempe. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report by Miner. It was seconded by Gary. The motion passed.

**Old business**

David thanked everyone who entered the recent car shows in Florence, Tempe, and Goodyear. He said we also had Corvairs represented at the Impala Bob Car Show as well as the Rev for Autism event at Hamilton High School. We also had one member in attendance at the Melrose Merchant Car Show in Phoenix.

**New Business**

A membership application was submitted by Lee and Sandra Trano. The club voted to accept the application and welcome them to the group.

David reminded everyone about the Tucson Chevy Showdown on April 8 south of Tucson. Five or six members plan to attend. A caravan will leave the Wild Horse Pass Chevron gas station at 6:30 AM on Saturday morning for the drive down. A map with the latest information on the show will be on the club website.

The annual club pitch-in picnic will be held on April 22 at El Dorado Park in Scottsdale. The club will provide hot dogs and hamburgers, buns, plates, napkins, condiments, etc. Attendees are asked to bring a side dish, dessert and their own refreshments. There will be games for prizes and entertainment. We have a Ramada reserved and there are shade trees, grass, lakes and nice facilities all around. Picnic will begin at 10 and is scheduled to run until 2. After the picnic we plan to caravan together to the McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park about 15 minutes north. After approximately an hour and a half at the railroad park we will caravan to the Scottsdale Pavilions car show. More information and last-minute details will be provided on the website.

Other events in the near future are the Tri-state Corvair meet in Taos New Mexico on June 2-4 and the International Corvair Convention in Independence Missouri June 27 through July 1. Linda C and David D are both making plans to attend.

Members were reminded that the club does not hold monthly meetings in June, July or August. Joe asked everyone to keep an eye on the website and stay in communication over the summer because many of us still attend events and take our cars out in the summer heat. The club will contact members via bulk email or a phone call if a significant club event forms.

Several members will look into trying to find a local source to purchase club T-shirts. The local high school that did the last batch no longer offers the service.

**Tech Topics**

Member John H showed everyone a tool designed to cut open an oil filter so that you could look for troubles inside the filter pleats such as metal shavings or bearing material. The oil filter cutter was from a company called Longacre and you can find them online many places. PN: 77750. He also mentioned a company in Phoenix called Lab One <http://www.laboneinc.com/> that can perform oil analysis services after you do an oil change to look for suspicious materials that should not be in your used oil. An oil analysis can indicate an impending engine failure before it happens or assure you that everything inside is okay. John also discussed his findings on the Corvair odometer where he believes the factory was under-reporting mileage intentionally. A label on the odometer indicates 825 revolutions would equal 1 mile of driving but when you measure the circumference of the original Corvair tire the numbers do not match up properly. He noted that this does not affect the speedometer function.

Joe L discussed the addition of an idiot light switch that will indicate if your emergency brake is accidentally left on. He found an original light housing that mounts under the dash to the left of the steering column but plans to use a more modern switch instead of the old plunger style switch that was supplied originally. Joe also showed everyone a “nutsert” tool that is great when you need to mount a threaded fastener to thin sheet-metal. He bought the tool at Harbor Freight. Item#1210

David D brought in a small tool and he bought from Clark’s Corvair that helps you when you have to reinstall the shift cable in a Powerglide Corvair. The Powerglide Linkage Adjustment Tool properly sets the depth of the shift valve inside of the transmission pan. He adapted a nutdriver handle so that it is easier to grip when your hands are oily. Clark’s # 5332

David D also pointed out to everyone the for-sale ad in the newsletter where a local person was selling three late-model Corvair bumpers plus a towbar.

The 50-50 drawing was won by Dollie. John H was the winner of a Nano-Lamp 12VDC miniature trouble light.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 PM

-Dave Wenzlick

## Treasurer’s Report March 2017 (Updated) by Joe Lewis

<b>Beginning Balance as of</b>	<b>2/28/2017</b>	<b>\$2,795.91</b>
<b>INCOME</b>		
	<b>50-50</b>	<b>\$24.00</b>
	<b>RENEWALS</b>	<b>\$45.00</b>
	<b>Catch a Wave Donation</b>	<b>166.68</b>
	<b>Larry Fund Donation</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
	<b>Larry Fund Scholarship</b>	<b>\$(800.00)</b>
	<b>Kiwanis Nuevo</b>	<b>\$(250.00)</b>
<b>ENDING BALANCE</b>	<b>3/31/2017</b>	<b>\$1991.59</b>
<b>PENDING CHECKS</b>		
<b>Pending Deposits</b>		
<b>BOOK BALANCE</b>	<b>3/31/2017</b>	<b>\$1991.59</b>



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## Cactus Corvair Club Annual Spring Picnic – Scottsdale, AZ (April 22, 2017).

Saturday April 22, Cactus Corvair Club descended on Eldorado park in Scottsdale for the annual Spring picnic. This was a first for the club at this venue that included a large, covered ramada, shade trees, and plenty of food. Though it was a warm day (high of about 95°) a breeze across the nearby water and huge patches of shade made for a perfect picnic setting. We had fourteen Corvairs attend the picnic event from all over the valley, including three that made the drive from Tucson.

The picnic included the usual fare of hot dogs and hamburgers accompanied by pot-luck style, side dishes and desserts. John H's potato salad and Jim J's scalloped potatoes were a big hit (bring MORE next year!). In addition to several lawn games, the picnic included a fan-belt toss, and a general raffle for those who drove their 'vairs. The popular Jenga-like ball drop game drew quite a bit of attention. However it was the fan-belt toss that garnered team competition for prizes. Braden and Nancy won the team fan belt toss competition. Ron, Mike, and Manny won prizes in the Driver's Raffle.



The highlight of the event was seeing everyone's vehicles lined up under the open sky. Other park goers and even firemen from the nearby station wandered by and looked at the cars, asking questions about Nader's criticism and various design features. It also gave everyone a chance to admire each other's work, modifications, and accomplishments; and talk about what's next!

As part of the day's events, the cars caravanned to McCormick Ranch Railroad Park where folks enjoyed ice cream and a respite around the larger indoor train displays. Afterwards, we drove to the pavilions for the Rock and Roll Cruise-In where we joined hundreds of classic and modified cars for the weekly show. Overall it was a very successful day and we appreciate everyone attending and the hard work of your club team that went into making this a terrific event. For more pictures, please visit [cactuscorvairclub.com](http://cactuscorvairclub.com).





## Cactus Corvair Club Annual Spring Picnic (continued)



**Three Corvair Bumpers from the 1960's and one Tow Bar.** I would like to sell them as a Package for \$ 40.00. (\$ 10.00 for each item) The Tow Bar is great for moving the cars. My home is near crossroads, 51st Ave and Butler. Contact Steve at (623) 931-1832 .





**32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Chevy Showdown April 8th Tucson AZ. (April 8, 2017). --Dave W.**

It was a warm, windy day at the Desert Diamonds Casino in Sahuarita (20 minutes south of Tucson). It was a great show and we even had a little picnic spot right next to the cars where we could hang out in the shade. The Tucson club members were very welcoming hosts to those who drove down from Phoenix. The Corvair caravan arrived right on time and had a safe journey there and back. Three of the four Corvairs appearing from the Cactus Corvair Club won awards. Miner and Joe received First Place awards and Dave and Cathy got a Second Place. John H and his wife also joined us with their 66 Corsa convertible. Miner had a lucky day with multiple raffle prize wins.






Summertime brings around thoughts of camping. What better way to go than in a Greenbrier! With windows all around, flexible configuration, large 175 ft<sup>3</sup> cargo space, and sharp styling, the Greenbrier sports van was one of the most innovative passenger vehicles in automotive history. Options for the cargo space included bed cushions, couch, kitchen counter, door mounted table and Coleman stove and cooler. Externally, tent and shelter units were available, along with a roof-top luggage rack. Let's go!

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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:
<b>President</b>	<b>David Dean</b> <a href="mailto:dr.dean@cox.net">dr.dean@cox.net</a>	<b>John Seamen</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Jim Johnson</b>	<b>Mary Seaman</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Joe Lewis</b>	<b>Miner Fleming</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Dave Wenzlick</b>	<b>Gary Sudbeck</b>

Webmaster Dave W. [dave@rcaz.com](mailto:dave@rcaz.com)

Newsletter Editor Marian Dean. [marian777@cox.net](mailto: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:

- May 3                      Regular Club Meeting - Earnhardt Chevrolet
- June 2-4                  [33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Tri-State Corvair Meet, Taos NM](#)
- June 27-July 1          [Corsa International Convention, Independence MO](#)



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*We're on the Web!*

*Visit us at:*

[www.cactuscorvairclub.com](http://www.cactuscorvairclub.com)

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### *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.*

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



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