

# Fanbelt Flyer

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

October 2017



Volume: 54, Issue: 7

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

I can hardly believe its been a year...

A year ago, my fellow enthusiasts took a chance and elected me president of the Cactus Corvair Club. I was honored then, as I still am, and humbled now by the trust you've placed in me this past year. Our club, as is our hobby, is going through a necessary; but natural transition. Our friends grow a little grayer, and our club grows a little wiser. We face challenges...nay opportunities in the coming years that are part of the natural cycle of our hobby. As car owners get a little older, some face the tough decision of giving up their vehicles hoping they go to loving new homes. Our cars on the road dwindle as time and money send more and more each year to the scrap yard. And our efforts to bring new, younger folks into the hobby pursue a generation of millennials that don't love cars as we do. What are we to do? While October may be nature's way of letting the old year depart – it does so with the splendor of color that renews our hope for the coming year.

Each October, our club puts on the All Corvair Car Show to exhibit the splendor of our hobby. It's a chance to show off the continual work and progress we make on our cars. We share the glory of achievement when we reveal new interiors, fresh paint, updated technology, and refreshed engines that keep our cars on the road. It is also a chance to say hello to friends we've not seen all summer, and good-bye to friends who bring their cars for the last time before they too let them go to new homes. I reflect with a swell of nostalgia at previous show photos - I remember attending my first All Corvair Car Show, meeting people and their cars, being encouraged to join, signing up and then obtaining my first Corvair, Belle. I can hardly believe its been three years already....

The opening of our 2017-2018 season gives us hope for the splendor of our cars in the coming year. We'll be doing some new events... and continuing previous activities our members enjoy. We'll be doing some events differently; but still doing them, and infuse new activities and opportunities into our calendar. We've already represented the club at the American Legion Post #35 Classic Car, Truck, and Motorcycle Show that supported the Soldiers' Best Friend (therapy dogs) – a new annual vent that draw over 100 vehicles in its first year. We received invitations for preferred spaces at two other shows benefitting Veterans. Opportunities that will benefit our club in the long run.

We have a variety of terrific items on our calendar this coming year. We know we can't be at every event; so, we are selecting some to attend and promote as a club activity, and providing information on other shows and events members can select that may work better for their location and schedules. We are pursuing activities all over the Phoenix metropolitan area to bring our cars to a wider public. We continue to encourage our members to gain greater recognition in the classic car community by getting our cars out there among the sea of classics and muscle cars. The next generation has easy access to Camaros, Mustangs and Mopars – however, the only way they'll find interest in Corvairs is if they discover them at shows, and events. We need to do new and different things if we want new and diverse members.

Please plan for as many of our heritage events (the Annual All Corvair Show in October, the Fan-belt Toss in Palm Springs, and annual charity drive Christmas Party); though they may be a little different. Also, look for new venues and opportunities on our calendar that will bring our cars to wider audiences. We are always open to suggestions. Finally, we will expand our geographic reach to draw more cars, members, and supporters from Central Phoenix, the West Valley, and Scottsdale. Please look at the Upcoming Events on the back page - nearly two events per month, in addition to our regular Wednesday club meetings! Mark your calendars!!

Finally, October gives us the opportunity to close the loop on the previous year and elect or affirm officers and board members for the coming year. Most of the officers and board have expressed an interest in continuing to serve the Club. We encourage others to step forward to help us create opportunities and plan events that will continue to make our club successful. Elections will be held at the October 4<sup>th</sup> meeting where floor nominations will be accepted. We will also finalize the details of our 9<sup>th</sup> Annual All Corvair Car Show, and plan for the Kool FM Classic Car Show in Glendale on the 28<sup>th</sup>. We'll also hear from club member progress reports, have our usual tech talks, 50/50 raffle, and most importantly, fellowship with you and your cars before and afterwards. As usual, we meet at Earnhardt Chevrolet on Arizona Avenue, just north of Warner. It may have only been a year, but I look forward to many more years come! See you Wednesday October 4th!

Happy motoring,  
David "Doc" Dean

For nearly a decade Chevrolet has built rear-engine fun cars. In that time, Corvair has established itself as a firm favorite with U.S. enthusiasts. Reasons: rear-engine design with great roadability. Independent suspension at all four wheels (like the famous Corvette) for supple ride. With the engine weight in the rear, over the driving wheels, traction is superb. (Just ask owners who live in winter climates!) But with all these virtues, why the low price? Chevrolet know-how, that's why.



Shown on front cover: Monza Sport Coupe. Shown above: Monza Convertible.

Copyright 1967, Chevrolet Motor Division, General Motors Corporation.



**Not only does Monza put the car before the horses, it gives you sporty buckets and styling flair in hardtop and convertible models.**

If you're a true car enthusiast, then you probably know all about Corvair already. If not, you can't help but notice those sleek rear-engine fun cars darting about. For 1968, both enthusiasts and lovers of fun cars will find lots to like in the Monza Sport Coupe or Convertible. Outside, it has that aerodynamic styling with new side marker lights front and rear.

Inside, those great bucket seats have new finer grain vinyl on cushion centers and backrests. New finer grain vinyl is used on sidewalls, too. Also new: added instrument panel padding, padded windshield pillars and energy-absorbing front seat backs, and new safety armrests that shield door handles. Bright accents highlight seat backs and sidewalls, while deep-twist nylon carpet luxuriates underfoot. On the instrument panel, the black-textured trim panel adds a tasteful touch.

Black, gold or blue interiors are keyed to Magic-Mirror exterior color. Fold-down rear seat is standard in the Monza Sport Coupe; handy locking front trunk on all Corvairs. Monza Convertible top choices: white, black or blue with any body color.

Just for sport, try ordering a Monza model equipped with either the 110-hp or 140-hp Turbo-Air engine. 4-Speed fully synchronized gearbox. Positraction, sport-styled steering wheel (looks like real walnut), AM-FM radio (seven FM stations or tape stereo if you like — or both for ultimate listening!) and those dashing wire wheel covers to get off whitewall or black 7.00 x 13 tires. That's what a real enthusiast would specify, and the entire package won't cost you a bundle.

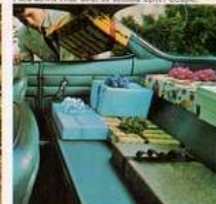
So much for the car. As for horses, 35 are standard. 110 or 140 are available. Transmissions: 3-Speed fully synchronized standard; you may also order 4-Speed or Powerglide automatic with any engine.

Personalize your Monza with extra-cost Options and Custom Features listed on the back page. Some are described and illustrated above.



Locking up-front trunk.

Fold-down rear seat in Monza Sport Coupe.





## September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017 - 1<sup>st</sup> Annual American Legion Post #35 Classic Car, Truck, and Motorcycle Show – Chandler, AZ.

The weather was perfect, an end-of-Summer high in the mid to upper 80s, clear skies, and a gentle breeze. An amazing start to the 2017-2018 car show season at the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual American Legion Post #35 Classic Car, Truck, and Motorcycle Show in Chandler. Proceeds from this show went to the Soldier's Best Friend foundation who provide service dogs to veterans. In their inaugural event, the American Legion members hosted an outstanding show boasting just over 105 vehicle entries, four food and drink vendors, an assortment of gift and novelty merchants, a 50/50 prize of nearly \$350, and wide variety of raffle items from memorabilia to tools, gift baskets and clothing. For their first outing it was a resounding success!

Though registration opened at 10AM, the parking lot was fairly full by 11. The official festivities began at noon with a pass-and-review of the colors hoisted by former service members on motorcycles that each took a turn through the cars while the public-address system played their respective branch anthems. Led by the POW-MIA rider, the branch pennants joined the national flag in a final loop while a deep-voiced vet belted out the national anthem. One Marine stood smartly at attention in his Legion Riders vest and camouflage cover to salute the flag as it rode by. Thank you to all represented that day for their service.

Soon after lunch was served by the post kitchen – sloppy joes and chips – free with your car entrance fee. Several hot dog stands and a BBQ vendor supplemented the lunchtime fare with ¼ lb. all beef dogs, pulled pork sandwiches, beef brisket (smoked on site), and a variety of sides, snacks, and beverages. No one went hungry!

Ballots were issued to show registrants as judging tool the form or people's choice awards in car/truck and motorcycle categories. Additionally, awards were presented by event organizers on behalf of the various service branches, the Post Commander's award, the Chandler Chief of Police's Choice, and the Soldier's Best Friend Award.



**EARNHARDT**  
"NO BULL" SINCE 1951



Thorbred Chevrolet is Now  
**EARNHARDT CHEVROLET**  
Sales: (602) 626-9500 Service: (602) 635-9157





The Cactus Corvair Club had four cars at the show, Chris's 1966 convertible Monza four speed, Joe's 1965 convertible Corsa 4 speed, Richard's 1966 convertible Corsa Turbo, and David's 1965 convertible Monza automatic. Of the 105 vehicles in the show, only Mustangs outnumbered Corvairs in terms of Make and Model. There were some excellent examples of other mid-60s Chevy's that were worthy of attention.



## Cactus Corvair Club Meeting September 6, 2017 Secretary's Report by Dave W:

The

meeting was called to order by President David Dean at 6:59 PM.

David started out the meeting with "Summer Vacation" stories from himself and several other members. David related that Marian's convertible named "Bleu" was now up and running after getting much love over the summer from David and further assistance from Gary S.

Joe L. related his visit to the Petersen Auto Museum in Los Angeles and indicated it is a very worthwhile place to go if you are in the area. <https://petersen.org/>

Dave W. said a few words about he and Cathy's trip to the Tri-State Corvair meet in Taos, New Mexico last June. The show was well attended and had over 100 Corvairs registered. There was a huge Corvair parade through town along with a car show, banquet and other evening activities. Unfortunately, Cathy became ill on the trip and they returned early to Phoenix. It is a bit of a drive to the Tri-State events but certainly a fun and relaxing time. Next year the show is in Crested Butte, Colorado on June 9-10.

David D. was on the "Rosie on the House" radio show on KTAR over the Labor Day weekend and was relating to the listeners some history about great old Arizona rod trips and also got a few words in supporting Corvairs, our club and the upcoming All Corvair Show in Scottsdale. Linda C. talked about the CORSA Convention in July and her misfortune that she was unable to attend this year. Her twin sister and mother did attend and they sent many souvenirs and photos for Linda to share with the club. Next year the convention is in Philadelphia. Linda mentioned the Valve Cover races and John H. said he wants to build one and asked for more information.

David D. mentioned the list of fall activities on the club calendar. He reminded everyone to check the website for the latest updates on event schedules.

Joe L. and David W. are coordinating the Annual All Corvair Anniversary Car Show and gave the latest details on the event. The club will not collect food donations at the Oct 14<sup>th</sup> car show this year but still plan to do so at the Christmas Party. Donations to the Ronald McDonald charity will be collected at the car show instead. Awards at the event will be 1<sup>st</sup> -3<sup>rd</sup> for 60-64 Corvairs, 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> for 65-69 Corvairs and People's Choice that will be sponsored by Earnhardt Chevrolet. The website has a special page for full details on the show.

David also mentioned to watch for 2018 activities such as the annual Caliente Clowns Car Show in Florence, the All Chevy Show in Tucson and the Annual Cactus Corvair Spring Picnic. All these dates will be announced in the near future.

Joe L. mentioned he has completed the review of the bylaws and will submit the recommended changes for member review. Information will be on the website and in the newsletter prior to voting at the October meeting.

David D. asked for nominations for club officers for 2018. Anyone wishing to run for office can submit their name for consideration. Existing officers agreed to remain in office if no one else volunteers. There were no additional names submitted during the meeting.

John S. submitted that he objects to holding the Oct 14<sup>th</sup> show at a new location and time. He is concerned for members who cannot drive or that Tucson club members will not attend. David D. reiterated that the new location and time is an effort to get our club and Corvairs in front of a much larger audience of automotive enthusiasts since the public attendance at the Earnhardt dealership was low last year.

The May 2017 club meeting Secretary's Report was accepted as printed in the September newsletter. Miner F. made the motion, John H. seconded and the motion was passed.

Joe L. gave the Treasurer's report. Balance was \$1976.80. Miner F. made the motion to accept the report. John H. seconded and the motion was passed by the members.

Tech Talk –John H. suggested that members who could not attend the Great Western Fan Belt Toss and Swap Meet in Palm Springs October 20-22 could still take advantage of placing an order with Clark's Corvair if they wished to work with him. Clark's usually gives a nice discount for orders placed at the show. If you can't attend, reach out to John if you want to have him order parts for you. David Dean related a few more stories about his summer Corvair repairs. Joe L. told of his engine removal and re-install that cleaned up many small issues and leaks but that another engine pull is in his future due to one bell housing leak that reappeared. As luck would have it, Joe was given a large transmission jack over the summer but only after the engine install was complete. Thinking he would not use it anytime in the near future, Dave W. ended up with it. It will now be loaned back to Joe along with a Corvair specific engine cradle that Joe bought from "davemotohead" on the Corvair Center Forum. The new jack and cradle will be tested soon when Joe pulls the engine in prep for the All Corvair Show. During the Tech Talk session, Joe L. also showed us his new late model Corvair USB flash drive. It was a group purchase arranged on one of the Corvair forums last spring and Joe recently received three of them.

The 50/50 drawing was won by John S. David D. adjourned the meeting at 7:50 PM and encouraged members to join him at Culver's after meeting for some treats. John H. brought Culver's coupons to share.

-Submitted by Dave Wenzlick

## Treasurer's Report September 2017 by Joe Lewis

<b>Beginning Balance as of</b>	<b>8/31/2017</b>	<b>\$1976.80</b>
<b>INCOME</b>		
	<b>50-50</b>	<b>19.00</b>
	<b>RENEWALS</b>	<b>0</b>
		<b>\$19.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
<b>ENDING BALANCE</b>	<b>9/30/2017</b>	<b>\$1995.80</b>
<b>PENDING CHECKS</b>		
<b>Pending Deposits</b>		
<b>BOOK BALANCE</b>	<b>9/30/2017</b>	<b>\$1995.80</b>

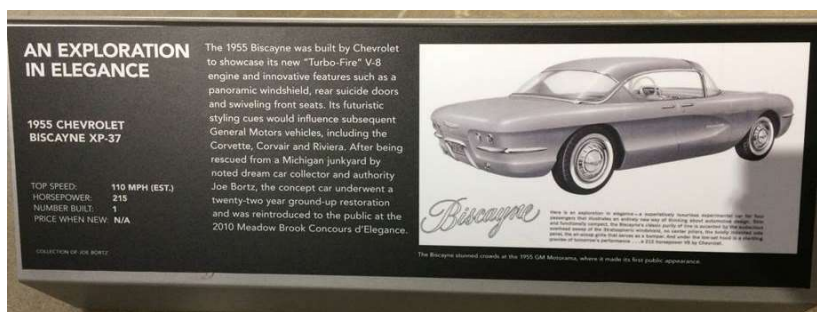


## Peterson's Auto Museum – Pomona, CA – by Joe L.

A few friends of mine have been doing a road trip to the Pomona swap meet a few times a year and this summer we decided to add an extra day to the trip so we could go to the Peterson's Auto Museum in Los Angeles. As we were in town we also decided to go to the Bob's Big Boy in Burbank on Friday night. It was a great get together of classic cars in LA. For an added price at the museum we toured what they call the "vault." This is a collection of private cars in storage in the basement. We were not able to take pictures or know the names of the owners; but I did see a red 64 Corvair owned by Jeff at California Corvair. A number of the cars were under restoration by the staff at the museum and we received a lot of information on the process of restoration (what, how long, etc.).



The main museum has a wealth of cars and automobile history. One of them that stood out as I was walking through was a 1955 Chevrolet Biscayne XP-37 concept car. The story behind it was that the Biscayne's chassis had been crushed, but the junkyard owner had managed to save all of the pieces from the original body. The owner had had to dig pieces out of the ground, thankfully the body of the vehicle was made out of fiberglass, so it didn't oxidize, and many of the parts had to be glued together from all the bits and pieces. One of the items that stood out significantly was that how the Corvair used a good part of the rear end design from the 1955 Biscayne concept car on the early models Corvairs. Notice in the pictures how the Corvette, Buick Riviera, and the Cadillac Eldorado also used designs from this car. I just loved the future styling of the car.





**Ed Cole (1909-1977).** As the rare high-profile executive at General Motors, nationally famous after his face appeared on the cover of *Time* magazine in 1959, Ed Cole was also the father of the Corvair. His motto, "Kick the hell out of the status quo," soon would be widely known. Cole made an impression as a go-to guy early in his career. GM assigned the M-41 Walker Bulldog tank project to Cadillac in 1949. Plant manager Cole, who had joined the division in 1933 from the General Motors Institute, found a suitable facility in Cleveland. He flew his Beech Bonanza around the country to find production tools and got the tank job under way in 10 months.

Passing their evenings at Cleveland's Lakeshore Hotel, Cole and his men entertained themselves by drawing up plans that eventually became Chevrolet's small-block V-8. He became Chevy's chief engineer in 1952. "At that time Chevrolet was making a little six, a grandmother type of car," Cole recalled. "Nobody had ever built an enthusiast type of car around Chevrolet." Cole's small-block V-8 was offered in the 1955 Chevy. Moving up from chief engineer, he was named the division's general manager in July 1956.

On the cover of *Time*'s Oct. 5, 1959, issue, Cole wasn't honored for the small-block V-8 or his efforts on the Corvette. Instead, he was hailed as the father of the rear-engine Corvair. In 1961, Cole was promoted to group vice president, overseeing all of GM's automotive divisions, and in 1965 he became executive vice president in charge of general staff activities. He was named president of GM in 1967.

No job was too daunting for Cole. Richard Gerstenberg, a former GM chairman, told *The Wall Street Journal*, "I guess you could describe Ed as the kind of guy to whom you might say: 'Ed, I'd like you to move the General Motors Building across the road,' and he'd say, 'Do you want it facing Second Avenue or Grand Boulevard?' " Gerstenberg said Cole was a get-it-done kind of executive who sometimes wanted to move faster than GM could go. But it was that style that pushed him through the ranks to the GM presidency. September 17 marks the anniversary of his birthday, he would have been 98.

**Clark's**  
**Corvair Parts®**

Site of the World's Largest  
**Corvair Parts Supplier**  
Since 1973



**Dick's Speed-O-Tach**  
(602) 279-6463, 4325 N 7th St,  
Phoenix AZ 85014.

**Chandler Alternator Starter LLC**  
795 E Chandler Blvd.  
Chandler, AZ 85225  
480-814-2864  
They also repair Generators

**Vintage Auto Repair**  
2120 E. Rose Garden Lane  
Phoenix, AZ 85024  
602-283-5959

**ARIZONA CORVAIR CORRAL**  
1043 W. Roundup St  
Apache Junction, AZ 85120  
New, Used, and NOS  
Parts and Repairs  
480-242-1211

**Gary Sudbeck**  
  
**Corvair**  
**Repairs and Rebuilds**  
**(480)827-2065**



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

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:

October 4	Regular Club Meeting - Earnhardt Chevrolet
October 14	All Corvair Show – Pavillions, Scottsdale
October 20-22	Great Western Fan Belt Toss – Palm Springs, CA
October 28	Kool FM Classics Show – Glendale
November 1	Regular Club Meeting - Earnhardt Chevrolet
November 4	Kustom Karz for K9s and Katz – Chandler
November 11	Cops & Classics, San Tan Valley
November 17-19	GoodGuys @ Westworld, Scottsdale
December 6	<b>NO Regular Club Meeting!</b>
December 9	Christmas Party – La Famiglia Italian Pizza & Pasta
11AM- 2PM	SE Corner Dobson and Baseline
January 3	Regular Club Meeting - Earnhardt Chevrolet



Preserving Chevy's Rear Engine Fun Car

*We're on the Web!*

*Visit us at:*

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



Name

Street Address

City, ST ZIP Code