

Fanbelt Flyer

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

December 2018/January 2019

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From the President's Garage - By David Dean

Happy Holidays and a Merry New Year to all!! Its that time we turn from one year to the next with high hopes for what is to come. The Cactus Corvair Club closed out 2018 with several terrific events and opportunities to get together. A new year also brings a time to reflect about the passage of time and how that brings changes to our club. Some folks move on from the hobby, new car owners join. Some cars are sold or taken off the road, new cars take their place at gatherings. New activities replace familiar ones; and new opportunities bring ways to promote our cars, the hobby, and our club. I am excited about what 2019 will bring to the Cactus Corvair Club; let us celebrate!

Speaking of time, the Corvair was ahead of its time in many respects: monocoque construction, aluminum engines, and independent rear suspensions are now ubiquitous and rear engines have begun to reappear on microcars like the smart fortwo and Tata Nano. The Corvair's initial success is something to be celebrated. It won Motor Trend's 1960 Car of the Year award, first year sales were a respectable 250,000 cars, and by February 1960, Chevy had introduced the the Monza. Arriving at dealerships in May, the Monza featured bucket seats, a four speed manual transmission, a tuned engine putting out 95 horsepower, and a long options list allowing buyers to personalize their cars. By 1961, over 50% of Corvairs were sold with the \$189 Monza package, and Chevrolet was



selling over 330,000 of its rear-engine cars in '61 and '62. In 1965, the Corvair got a substantial redesign, with flowing, sensuous lines usually reserved for cars four times its price. Car and Driver's David E. Davis waxed poetic about the car in its October 1964 issue, saying: "And it is here too, that we have to go on record and say that the Corvair is – in our opinion – the most important new car of the entire crop of '65 models, and the most beautiful car to appear in this country since before World War II."

On the other hand, you could question whether all the technological bruha was worth the effort. For all its engineering novelty, the Corvair's performance was little better than that of a contemporary Falcon, a Valiant or, for that matter, Chevrolet's own Chevy II. If the Corvair had a singular advantage, it was that was different. Indeed, by the standards of early-sixties domestic sedans, it was positively contrary. If it was flawed, it also had character where the Chevy II was merely anonymous. Today, the Corvair is a cult car with a growing following. Parts and aftermarket support have always been strong, and at a time when well-optioned early Mustangs can fetch six-figures at auction, you can still find a clean driving Corvair for under \$10,000. The Corvair was one of a tiny handful of American cars of this era that dared to break the mold, and perhaps that is itself worthy of our celebration. We have high hopes for the future of our cars, our hobby, and our club.

Happy motoring,
David "Doc" Dean



Help in Healing Home, Walk in the Park & Classic Car Show, Scottsdale – Nov 10, 2018

On a brisk Saturday morning in early November, several club members (Chris S. Joe L. and David D.) made their way up to north Scottsdale to the Mayo Clinic for the 2nd Annual Help in Healing Home, Walk in the Park & Classic Car Show. Help in Healing Home is a place where transplant patients or persons undergoing extensive cancer treatment, can stay after release from the hospital; in a tranquil environment. The Sonoran Desert casitas are conducive to healing. Funds raised through the 2nd Annual Walk in the Park & Classic Car Show ensure Help in Healing Home's nightly rates stay affordable for patients during recovery. The morning fun included walking the 1.0- or 2.8-mile Nature Trail course, meandering through the 30+ Classic Cars, shopping at the Marketplace and lunch provided by Portillo's. Though it was not a judged show, Chris took home two raffle baskets!



Alex's 62 Project (Part 4)



While work progresses on the project, Santa brought Alex a pair of NOS fender skirts for project...more updates to come.



10th Annual All Corvair Anniversary Show, Scottsdale Pavilions – November 17, 2018



This year the Annual All Corvair Anniversary Show returned to the Pavilions for the 10th iteration of the 50th year commemorations of Corvair model years. Joining again with the Rock and Roll Cruise-In held at the Scottsdale Pavilions McDonald's every Saturday night, this year had the added benefit of coinciding with the GoodGuys Fall Nationals Car Show a few miles away at Westworld. These events draw some of the finest pre-1972 collector vehicles, muscle cars, motorcycles, and street rides in the valley. Gambling on cooler weather, and the synergy of events, we achieved another successful Corvair Anniversary Show – with seven early models, eleven late model cars, representing one Greenbrier, one rampside, ten convertibles, two four doors, three coupes, a V8, and an Ultravan!

The variety was well-received by the hundreds of people that came by to look at our cars, ask questions, share their experiences, and participate in the People's Choice Award. We also gathered names and contact information from several new individuals/families that expressed interest in joining the club or learning more about Corvairs. Balloting again divided into two main categories: Driver's Choice, voted on by show entry drivers and club members; and, People's Choice, sponsored by Earnhardt Chevrolet and voted on by the general public that visited the show. Congratulations to this year's show winners:

Driver's Choice – Early Model		Driver's Choice – Late Model	
1 st	1963 – Sedan – Jerry D.	1 st	1966 Corsa Convertible - Al F.
2 nd	1964 – Spyder Convertible – Bill R.	2 nd	1965 Corsa Convertible – Miner F.
3 rd	1963 – Monza Convertible – Jim J.	3 rd	1966 Corsa Convertible – Chuck R.
Earnhardt Chevrolet People's Choice Award - 1965 Corsa Convertible - Miner F.			

Thank you to the sponsors of the 10th Annual Corvair Anniversary Show. O'Reilly's Auto Parts on 1135 E McKellips Road, Clark's Corvair Parts, Haggerty Insurance, Portillo's, and ZT Labels for providing items for the gift bags and raffle. Earnhardt Chevrolet in Chandler provided the trophy for the People's Choice Award. Also thank you to McDonalds at the Pavilions for hosting both the Rock and Roll Cruise-in each week, and sectioning off their front parking spaces so our cars could be shown together and visible to drivers on Indian Bend Road. Also, thanks to Miss Arizona Scholarship pageant contestants Jacqueline Thomas (Miss Paradise Valley) for coming to support the event and help hand out trophies. Finally, a huge thanks goes to club member Dave W. for their hard work to pull this event together. We are already looking forward to next year's show!

10th Annual All Corvair Anniversary Show (continued)**First Place - Early Model****First Place – Late Model****Dwarf Car Museum Tour and Road Rally, Maricopa-Casa Grande – December 1, 2018**

We were joined by the Tucson Corvair Club for a road trip to Maricopa and the Dwarf Car Museum. Ernie Adams, originator of the dwarf car, has made a name for himself building Dwarf Race Cars and scaled down replicas of classic cars called Dwarf Car Cruisers. These handmade works of art were on display at his shop/museum where we were able to see several of his completed works, as well as projects in the works. After touring the museum, we made our way to the Raceway Bar & Grill for lunch. From there we went on a rally through rural Arizona visiting several interesting locations before ending our tour in Casa Grande.





Cactus Corvair Club Meeting November 7, 2018 Secretary's Report by Nancy P:



The meeting was called to order at 7 PM by club president David Dean. Two new members were welcomed. Jack Glazebrook, who owns a '63 Convertible, and Greg Schupfer, who has a '63 Rampside, a '61 500, and a '64 Convertible in his stable.

Old Business

October minutes were reviewed and accepted.

The Treasurer's Report was also read and accepted..

Several October club activities were reported on by attendees:

The "Chevys in the Park Show" was in Chandler on October 27. There were 4 Corvairs there out of 114 cars. Miner came away with a 1st place win in his class, and Chris came in 3rd place.

Chris also attended the American Legion Post 35 show in Chandler on October 13th. There were t-shirts, raffles, goodie bags, lots of prizes, food, and music. This was a great show and we hope to drum up more club participation in the future.

The club also had representation at the "2018 Great Western Fan Belt Toss", held in San Diego on October 26th through 28th. As expected, there were lots of cars and vendors, a Welcome Party and a closing banquet.

New Business

Election of Officers: The club confirmed the following officers for the upcoming year.

President: David D.

Vice President: Dave W.

Secretary: Nancy P.

Treasurer: Joe L.

We also learned that Chris S. has become our "Social Media Guru" and will be managing our Facebook page among other things.

There are many upcoming shows and runs.

On November 17 there will be an All Corvair show at the Pavilions at Talking Stick in Scottsdale. There is no advance sign-up needed, just show up. It opens to the public at 5 PM, but if you plan to show a car, be there about 4. There will be trophies for early and late models and a People's Choice Award. The club is making a \$100 donation to the Ronald McDonald House. Additional contributions can be given to Joe L., and the Caliente Clowns supported us with a \$40 donation to the cause as well. We still need raffle and goodie bag donations. We need a quantity of 30 of each of any items collected. These must be in by Nov. 12th.

Looking ahead to December 1st, the club is planning a Rally to the Dwarf Car Museum in Maricopa as a joint event with Tucson's Corvair Club. Participants from our club will meet up at the Chevron Station at Wild Horse Pass Casino at 9 AM and ride together to the museum where we will join with our counterparts from Tucson. There will be a museum tour, lunch together, a drive through Casa Grande, and then our clubs part for our separate drives home.

There is a Cruise Night every Saturday at 5 PM at K-Mart, at 67th and Bell Rd. for anyone interested. Beware of construction in the area.

On November 10th there will be a "Walk in the Park and Car Show" at the Mayo Clinic, 5811 E. Mayo Blvd., Phoenix. This will have a \$20 registration fee to benefit the Help in Healing Home, which provides housing and care for cancer and transplant patients and their families. Registration starts at 8 AM.

For 2019, Joe L. proposed an overnight trip to the iconic Wigwam Motel which would give us a chance to cruise historic Route 66 together.

Also in 2019, the Caliente Clown Club Car Show is scheduled to be held on March 9th.

Holiday Party

The club's traditional Holiday Party will be held on Saturday, December 15th at Chris S.'s house at 11 AM. Main

dishes will be catered, but everyone will be asked to bring a side dish or dessert. Bring an unwrapped toy; the club will then ride to the Chandler Fire Department's annual Toy Drive at approximately 2 PM to drop off donations.

Tech Talks

David D. regaled us with his latest misfortune. There was a persistent oil leak spraying from behind the harmonic balancer. He eventually found an oil manifold with a missing seal. He replaced the seal, greasing the inner part of the seal and putting a thin layer of RTV on the outside. Working well so far.

Joe L.'s tachometer needle was bouncing. Diagnosing was difficult; he took the lead from the tach to the coil, and the car started backfiring. He then pulled the wire, and the car wouldn't start. Tried putting in a new distributor....nothing. Finally he found that an ignition switch wire was loose. Fixed! He noted that the wire that says "tach" does not actually go to the tach, it goes to the coil, so beware.

Linda was rebuilding her carburetor and put the spring in wrong... :-{

Miner needed an alignment and then discovered he needed new tie rod ends. The search is on.

John H. is currently working on 2 cars. He purchased over \$3k worth of parts at the Fan belt Toss and hopes to use them to repair his van and make him able to drive it to the event in 2019. He also complained that Corsa does not have enough events for clubs west of the Mississippi and dropped his membership. He also said he met Bob Helt's daughter at the Fan Belt Toss and that she is selling NOS parts to support the Corvair Museum. He has her phone number if anyone needs anything. (Bob Helt was a noted Corvair expert and enthusiast, authoring many how-to books on Corvair repair. He passed away earlier this year.)

Closing Thoughts

John, Jim, and Linda had suggestions for future events in the area to promote Corvairs, increase club membership, and interest younger generations in Corvairs.

There was no 50/50 Raffle this month.

There will be no formal December club meeting, but the Board of Directors will meet.

The meeting was adjourned at 8 PM.

Nancy P.

Submitted by Nancy Pastore



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Treasurer's Report November 2018 by Joe Lewis

Beginning Balance as of	10/31/2018	\$10942.77
INCOME		
	50-50 NEW MEMBER	\$15.00
	RENEWALS	\$135.00
	Ronald McDonald House Donations	\$102.00
EXPENSES		
	(Ronald McDonald House)	(\$200.00)
ENDING BALANCE	11/30/2018	\$10,994.77
PENDING CHECKS		
Pending Deposits		
BOOK BALANCE	11/30/2018	\$10,994.77

December 5th Board Meeting Notes.

Attendees: Dave W., Joe L., Gary S., Miner F., David D., Alex and Anthony L. (General Members)
Meeting called to order at 7PM.

Item 1: Calendar

The board reviewed options and opportunities for the Spring calendar. The discussion emphasized that as a club we should be 'doing' more with our cars than just going to shows and 'sitting with' our cars. Additionally, there was agreement that the club needs more physical presence on the West side of the Phoenix metropolitan area. After reviewing suggestions, the board recommended the following events calendar:

- Saturday January 26, Agri-Country Bluegrass Festival and Car Show – Pinal County Fairgrounds (invite Tucson Corvair Club to join us).
- Saturday February 16, 2nd Annual St. Thomas More Car Show – Glendale.
- Sunday February 17, Sweetheart of America All Chevy Show – Scottsdale Pavilions.
- Saturday March 9, Caliente Clowns Car Show – Florence (invite Tucson Corvair Club to join us)
- Saturday April 6, Spring Picnic and Club Meeting – Chandler Tumbleweed Park (Tentative) (invite Tucson Corvair Club to join us)

There were other shows discussed. The board elected to have other opportunities included on the webpage where club members are encouraged to attend – but will not be as heavily promoted by the club. These include the Catch-a-Wave Show in Tempe, the Cruiz'n to the Lakes Show in Avondale, COP's Classics and Customs in San tan Valley, and the Tucson Chevy Show.

The board also discussed additional Club Meetings for Westside members and Corvair owners. In addition to cruise-in opportunities at Mixteca (67th Ave & Bell) on Saturday nights, the board opted to hold two meetings at a centrally located restaurant February 2nd and April 13. David D. to make arrangements.

Item 2: Annual Corvair Show

Now that the club has completed the 10-year cycle of Anniversary Shows, the board discussed the next direction for this annual event. The future event planning capitalizes on the 'lessons' learned, and positive outcomes the anniversary show has experienced over the past five years. The annual event will shift its priority from a "show" with an emphasis on trophies, to a "cruise-in" with an emphasis on owners bringing their cars and greater opportunity for raffle prizes rather than trophies. As such, the board designated to inaugural event as the 2019 Arizona Corvair Cruise-In. The board directed the following:

- Appoint Project Manager (Event Captain) before summer break at end of May for planning and provide more time for securing raffle prizes.
- Any Corvairs or Corvair powered vehicles allowed
- Proposed date of November 9th 2019, Nov 23rd alternate date (Note: Good Guys Nov 15-17th)
- Location 9140 Talking Stick Way (Scottsdale Pavilions McDonalds)
- \$100 donation to Ronald McDonald Charities (required for use of the space).
- 12:30 set up time.
- 1 PM-4 PM official event duration
- No entry fees (donations accepted)
- No voting or place awards (including no People's Choice).

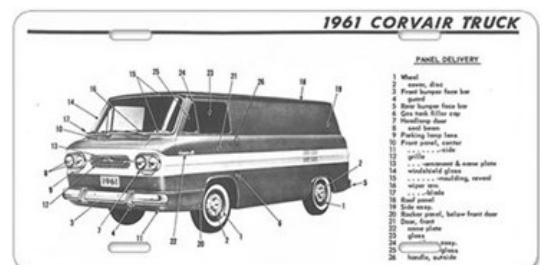
Additional suggestions for planning purposes:

- Fan Belt Toss for kids with simple prizes like gift cert for ice cream at McDonalds?
- Driver's raffle prizes @ 3 PM (\$250 club? plus donations from Clarks, California Corvair, etc.)
- Earnhardt Chevrolet Grand Prize (\$100 suggested value?)
- \$10 Event T-shirts if you register before Oct 31st? \$15 day of show?
- Advertise in CORSA, Cruisin' Arizona, Arizona Auto Scene, Craigslist, Corvair Center, Corvair Forum, all FB sites, Ad budget? (\$50-\$75?)
- Event decals, magnetic dash plaques or badges for participants (\$50?)

Item 3: Membership Update

The board reviewed the membership list, e-mail lists, and discussed the newsletter mailings. It was decided that a special invite will go out to former club members and current unpaid actives to encourage their membership renewal (David D. action item). The newsletter will continue to go out via e-mail and posted to the club website. Hard copy newsletters will be mailed as a courtesy to those that request them (currently less than 6 members). Lifetime member award to be given to club member announced at future club meeting (award winner name withheld until official announcement).

Meeting Adjourned at 8:10 PM



Treasurer's Report December 2018 by Joe Lewis

Beginning Balance as of	11/30/2018	\$10942.77
INCOME		
	50-50 NEW MEMBER RENEWALS	
EXPENSES		
ENDING BALANCE	12/31/2018	\$10,994.77
PENDING CHECKS		
Pending Deposits		
BOOK BALANCE	12/31/2018	\$10,994.77

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Annual Christmas Party – December 15, 2018



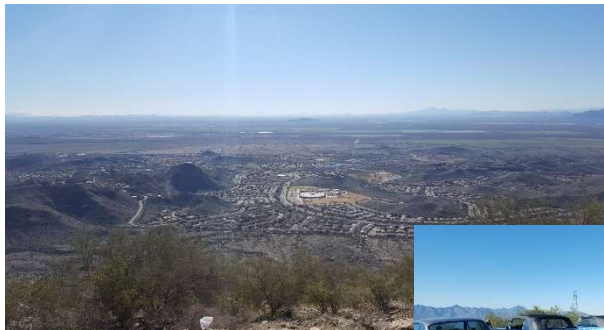
A huge thank you to Chris S. who opened his home for our annual Christmas Party. This year's potluck included, turkey, ham, a variety of side dishes, and plenty of desserts! Member John H. was particularly appreciative of the M&Ms bowls that were scattered about. Among decorated tree and holiday music, attendees enjoyed lunch and a gift exchange. Apparently, Santa had trouble locating his bag full of presents; so, club members helped Santa look right and left many times until all was found! In addition to the holiday fun, revelers gave toys and food bank items generously benefitting families in need through Matthew's Crossing Food Bank in Chandler. Our tummies and hearts were full in the spirit of the season. Thank you to Marian D. for decorating, Dave and Kathy for tables and chairs, plus getting our charitable items to Matthew's Crossing, and again to Chris S and his flamingos for letting us invade his home. Here are some highlight pictures:



Time to Drive! South Mountain Rally – December 29, 2018



Before the 2018 ended, club member Dave W. put together one last impromptu outing. While across the country most clubs are putting their cars snugly away for the winter – we in Phoenix say: “It’s Time to Drive!!” This was a casual, local driving event for all area Corvair owners to attend. For some, the first stop was an optional visit to StreetSide Classics for their monthly cruise-in - free coffee and donuts. We browsed their warehouse full of classic cars (which did include an early model Monza convertible) then headed out to meet up at the South Mountain Ranger Station. We had seven cars attend the rally which drove to the top of South Mountain (to Dobbins Point and Gila Valley Lookout). After taking a few pictures, enjoying the crisp air, and admiring expansive views of the surrounding landscapes, we headed back down for a bite to eat at Sonic and then a ride through central Phoenix to the historic McAlpine’s Diner and Soda Fountain for ice cream. It was a grand tour on a beautiful day!



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	Miner Fleming
Vice President	Dave Wenzlick	Chris Slonecker
Treasurer	Joe Lewis	Gary Sudbeck
Secretary	Nancy Pastore	

Webmaster Dave W. dave@rcaz.com

Membership Dues:

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



Meeting room generously provided by:

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



<https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=arizona%20corvair%20gatherings>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/239893616189038/>

UPCOMING Club Meetings:

January 2	Regular Club Meeting - Earnhardt Chevrolet – 7PM
January 26	Agri-Country Bluegrass Festival & Car Show – Pinal County Fairgrounds
February 2	Regular Club Meeting - Earnhardt Chevrolet – 7PM
February 16	2 nd Annual St. Thomas More Car Show - Glendale
March 6	Regular Club Meeting - Earnhardt Chevrolet – 7PM
March 9	Caliente Clowns Car Show - Florence



Preserving Chevy's Rear Engine Fun Car

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



Name

Street Address

City, ST ZIP Code